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The Clothworkers' Charters.

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Clothmakers' Company, London

THE

Charters

AND

Letters Patent

GRANTED BY

THE KINGS & QUEENS OF ENGLAND

TO

The Clothworkers' Company.

TRANSLATED FROM THE
ORIGINALS IN THE POSSESSION OF THE COMPANY.

LONDON.
Privately Printed.

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Wyman & Sons, Printers,
Great Queen St., London, W.C.

MASTER, WARDENS, AND ASSISTANTS

OF THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF

CLOTHWORKERS,

1880–81.

Master.

ROBERT COLLIER DRIVER.

Wardens.

WYATT PAPWORTH.

CHARLES BARKER COURTNEY.

ARTHUR FARNAN.

JOHN GOODHART WHALLEY.

Assistants.

Sir John Musgrove, Bart.
Colonel Sir William Anderson Rose, Ald.
Sir Sydney Hedley Waterlow, Bart., Ald., M.P.
Charles John Bloxam.
Rev. Edward John Ward, M.A.
John Gregory.
George Burnell.
Thomas William Wing.
Edmund Heysham Wood.
Samuel Bousfield.
Samuel Strange.
Edward Falkener.
George Wood.
John Bazley White.
John Farnan.
Robert John Child.
John Bousfield.
James Wyld, D.C.L.
Francis Farnan.
Charles Reynolds, M.A.
Robert Bousfield.
Thomas Christopher.
Edgar Horne.
Lieut.-Col. John Britten.
John Brownjohn Perks.
Rev. Alfred Child, M.A.
Walter Farnan.
Edward Gregory.
Charles James Orton.
John Mews.
Richard Roberts.
John Neate.
Edmund Collingwood Bousfield.
Thomas Holway Perks.
James Self, M.D.
Rev. Thomas Wiltshire, M.A.
John Trinder Talmadge.
Henry Farnan.

OWEN ROBERTS, M.A.
Clerk.

PREFACE.

THIS volume contains translations of the Charters granted by the Crown to the Company of Clothworkers of the City of London. In the nineteenth year of King Henry VIII. [A.D. 1527–8] the ancient Fraternities or Guilds of the Fullers and Shearmen were united and conjoined by the name of "The Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Clothworkers in the City of London"; which title was confirmed to them by subsequent charters, together with numerous privileges. The Charters of Incorporation of the Fullers and Shearmen, therefore, precede in these pages those of the Clothworkers' Company, and complete its corporate history.

The first part of this book contains the Charters of Incorporation and the Inspeximus and Confirmation Charters; the second, the Grants of Lands, and also a Private Act of the fourth year of James I., confirming certain possessions to the several City Companies.

The translations are close and literal, so as to reproduce the language of the originals as faithfully and accurately as possible.

CLOTHWORKERS' HALL,
19*th March*, 1881.

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Charters.

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Charter of Incorporation

OF THE FRATERNITY OR GUILD OF

THE MYSTERY OR CRAFT OF FULLERS

OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

28th April, 20 *Edward IV.*, *A.D.* 1480.

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dward by the grace of God King of England France and Lord of Ireland To all to whom the present letters shall come Greeting Know ye that we of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion have granted and given licence for us and our heirs to our well-beloved liegemen John Britte Henry Lee and Thomas Wymonde that they or any or any one of them may make found and establish to the praise glory and honour of God and of the most Glorious Virgin Mary his mother a certain Fraternity or Guild perpetual of three Wardens and a Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of our City of London and the Suburbs of the same now dwelling and hereafter to dwell and to the Brethren and Sisters of the Freemen of the same Mystery or Craft and to others who of their devotion would be of the same Fraternity or Guild within the City aforesaid to continue for all time to come And that the same Wardens and Commonalty may be from henceforth one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of three Wardens and a Commonalty And that they may be persons able and capable in law to purchase and receive in fee and perpetuity lands tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever of whatsoever person or persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them. To have and to hold to the same Wardens and Commonalty and their successors for ever and that they may have perpetual succession and a Common Seal for the business of the said Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid

for ever And that the same Wardens and Commonalty by the name of the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the City of London may be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices or Judges in whatsoever actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they may be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid whensoever they would in every year may be able to elect and make from among themselves three Wardens to support the business of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty and Fraternity or Guild aforesaid and to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Craft and Commonalty aforesaid and all the Men and Occupiers Servingmen Stuffs and Workmanship of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and their defaults duly to correct and cause to be corrected And that the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid and their successors may be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances and Constitutions for the good rule and governance of the same Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid so often as it shall please them and be necessary and to alter the same at their pleasure by the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being without the impeachment or molestation of us or our heirs Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other the Officers or Ministers of us or our said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever notwithstanding In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made patent Witness myself at Westminster the twenty-eighth day of April in the twentieth year of our reign.

NAYLER.

By Writ of Privy Seal and of the date aforesaid by the authority of Parliament.

"*Enrolled.*"

The Great Seal attached.

I. A.

Deed of Incorporation

OF THE

MYSTERY OR CRAFT OF FULLERS

OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

18th October, 20 *Edward IV.*, *A.D.* 1480.

To all the Sons of Holy Mother Church to whom and to whose notice the present letters shall come John Britte Henry Lee and Thomas Wymonde [send] greeting in Him by whom Kings reign and Princes are ruled We bring to the knowledge of all of you that whereas the most Excellent and Christian Prince Edward the Fourth by the grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland did by his Letters Patent the date whereof is the twenty-eighth day of April in the twentieth year of his Reign of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere motion grant and give licence for himself and his heirs to his well-beloved liegemen Us the aforesaid John Britte Henry Lee and Thomas Wymonde that we or any or any one of us to the praise glory and honour of God and of the most Glorious Virgin Mary his mother might make found and establish a certain Fraternity or Guild perpetual of three Wardens and a Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of his City of London and the Suburbs of the same then dwelling and thereafter to dwell and to the Brethren and Sisters of the Freemen of the same Mystery or Craft and to others who of their devotion would be of the same Fraternity or Guild within the City aforesaid to continue for all time to come And that the same Wardens and Commonalty should be from thenceforth one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of three Wardens and a Commonalty And that they should be persons able and capable in law to purchase and receive in fee and perpetuity lands tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever of whatsoever person or persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them To have and to hold to the same Wardens and Commonalty and their successors for ever And that they should have perpetual succession and a Common Seal for the business of the said Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid for ever And that the same Wardens and Commonalty by the name of the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or

Craft of Fullers of the City of London should be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices or Judges in whatsoever actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they might be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid whensoever they would in every year should be able to elect and make from among themselves three Wardens to support the business of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid and to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Craft and Commonalty aforesaid and all the Men and Occupiers Serving-men Stuffs and Workmanship of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and their defaults duly to correct and cause to be corrected And that the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid and their successors should be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances and Constitutions for the good rule and governance of the same Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity and Guild aforesaid so often as it should please them and be necessary and to alter the same at their pleasure by the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being without the impeachment or molestation of the aforesaid Lord the King or his heirs Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other the Officers or Ministers of him or his said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever notwithstanding As in the Letters aforesaid is more fully contained By the force and authority of which said Letters We the aforesaid John Henry and Thomas to the praise glory and honour of God and of the most Glorious Virgin Mary his most dearly-beloved mother for the foundation and establishment of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid in accordance with the force form and effect of the said Letters aforesaid of the aforesaid Lord the King do proceed in this manner :

Imprimis In the name of the most High and Undivided Holy Trinity the Father and only-begotten Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost we make found and establish a certain Fraternity or Guild perpetual of three Wardens and a Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the said City of London and Suburbs of the same now dwelling and hereafter to dwell to the Brethren and Sisters of the Freemen of the same Mystery or Craft and to others who of their devotion would be of the same Fraternity or Guild within the City aforesaid to continue for all time to come And that the same Wardens and Commonalty may be from henceforth one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of three Wardens and a Commonalty And that they may be persons able and capable

in law to purchase and receive in fee and perpetuity lands tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever of whatsoever person or persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them To have and to hold to the same Wardens and Commonalty and their successors for ever And that they may have perpetual succession and a Common Seal for the business of the said Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid for ever And that the same Wardens and Commonalty by the name of the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the City of London may be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices or Judges in whatsoever actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they shall be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid whensoever they would in every year may be able to elect and make from among themselves three Wardens to support the business of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid And to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Craft and Commonalty aforesaid and all the Men and Occupiers Serving-men Stuffs and Workmanship of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and the defaults of the same duly to correct and cause to be corrected And that the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid and their successors shall be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances and Constitutions for the good rule and governance of the same Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity and Guild aforesaid so often as it shall please them and be necessary and may alter them at their pleasure by the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being without the impeachment or molestation of the aforesaid Lord the King or his heirs Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other the Officers or Ministers of him or his said heirs or of others whomsoever In witness whereof to these presents we have set our seals Given at London the eighteenth day of the month of October in the twentieth year of the reign of the aforesaid Lord King Edward the Fourth after the Conquest of England.

Three Seals of red wax attached.

II.

Charter of Incorporation

OF THE FRATERNITY OF THE

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED MARY THE VIRGIN

OF

SHEARMEN

OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

24th January, 23 *Henry VII.*, *A.D.* 1507–8.

---

enry by the grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland To all to whom the present letters shall come Greeting Know ye that we of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion and with a feeling of charity on account of the especial devotion which we have and bear towards the Blessed Virgin Mary have granted and given licence and by these presents do give licence and grant as much as in us is to our beloved liegemen the Men of the Mystery of the Shearmen within our City of London that they and their successors in the City aforesaid may begin unite found create erect and establish a Guild or Fraternity in honour of the same Virgin of the Men of the Mystery aforesaid and of others and the Guild or Fraternity so begun united founded created erected and established may have and hold and the same use and enjoy to them and their successors to endure for all time to come And that they and their successors may hold the same Guild or Fraternity aforesaid of the said Mystery of Shearmen and of whatsoever persons whom they shall be willing to receive into the same Guild within the Fraternity aforesaid And also that they and their successors may be able to elect have and make one Master and two Wardens from among themselves from year to year or as often as it shall please them or need shall be for the governance keeping and rule of the said Fraternity for ever as to them shall seem best And further of our more abundant grace and at the supplication of our said liegemen the Men of the Mystery

aforesaid we will and grant for us and our heirs as much as in us is that the same Master and Wardens and their successors may be perpetual and capable and the said Fraternity may be of itself an entire united and perpetual corporate Fraternity And that it be from henceforth for ever called the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary the Virgin of Shearmen of the City of London And we incorporate the said Masters [*sic*] and Wardens and their successors and also the Fraternity aforesaid to continue for all time and we make them one Body and declare accept and approve them as one Body and also hold them as one Body And that in like manner they be called by the name of the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary And by the same name they may be perpetual and able and capable in law to sue for receive and procure lands tenements annuities rents services and emoluments whatsoever rights hereditaments and possessions temporal and spiritual To have and to hold to them and their successors for ever And by the same name may be able to plead and be impleaded and to prosecute all manner of causes plaints actions real and personal and mixed of what kind or nature soever they shall be And also to answer and defend under the name aforesaid in the same causes plaints and actions before whatsoever Judges secular and ecclesiastical in whatsoever Courts and places of us our heirs or successors and in whatsoever Courts and places of other persons whomsoever within our realm of England according to the laws and customs of the same realm and to do and receive all other things as and in like manner as other our liege people persons able and capable within our said realm plead and are impleaded answer and are bound to answer and do and have been able to do in whatsoever the Courts and places aforesaid according to the laws and customs aforesaid And that they and their successors may have a Common Seal for transacting their business and deeds And that the said Master and Wardens and with them the other Brethren of the Fraternity aforesaid and their successors may and may be able lawfully to make lawful and honest Assemblies and Conferences amongst themselves and lawful Statutes and Ordinances for the wholesome governance of the said Fraternity according to the necessity of the case as often as and when need shall be In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made patent Witness myself at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of January in the twenty-third year of our reign.

YONG.

By the King himself and of the date aforesaid by the authority of Parliament.

"*Enrolled.*"

The Great Seal attached.

III.

Charter of Incorporation

OF THE GUILD OR FRATERNITY OF

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OF

CLOTHWORKERS

IN THE CITY OF LONDON.

[UNION OF THE FULLERS AND SHEARMEN.]

18*th January*, 19 *Henry VIII.*, *A.D.* 1527–8.

---

enry the Eighth by the grace of God King of England and France Defender of the Faith and Lord of Ireland To all to whom the present letters shall come Greeting Whereas the most illustrious the Lord Henry the Seventh late King of England our father did by his Letters Patent the date whereof is at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of January in the twenty-third year of his reign of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere motion and with a feeling of charity which he had and bore towards the Blessed Virgin Mary grant and give licence and by the same letters gave licence and granted as much as in him was to his beloved lieges the Men of the Mystery of the Shearmen within his City of London that they and their successors in the City aforesaid might begin unite found create erect and establish a Guild or Fraternity in honour of the same Virgin of the Men of the Mystery aforesaid and of others and the Guild or Fraternity so begun united founded created erected and established might have and hold and the same use and enjoy to them and their successors to endure for all time to come And that they and their successors might hold the same Guild or Fraternity of the aforesaid Mystery of Shearmen and of whatsoever persons whom they should be willing to receive into the same Guild within the Fraternity aforesaid And also that they and their successors might be able to elect have and make one Master and two Wardens from among themselves from year to year or as often as it should please them or need should be for the governance

keeping and rule of the said Fraternity for ever as to them should seem best And further of his more abundant grace and at the supplication of his said lieges of such Mystery aforesaid he willed and granted for him and his heirs as much as in him was that the same Master and Wardens and their successors might be perpetual and capable and the said Fraternity might be of itself an entire united and perpetual corporate Fraternity And that it should be from thenceforth for ever called the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary the Virgin of Shearmen of the City of London And he did incorporate the said Master and Wardens and their successors and also the Fraternity aforesaid to endure for all time to come and made them one Body and declared accepted and approved them as one Body and also held them as one Body And that in like manner they should be called by the name of the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and by the same name might be perpetual and able and capable to sue for receive and procure lands and tenements annuities rents services and emoluments whatsoever rights hereditaments and possessions temporal and spiritual To have and to hold to them and their successors for ever And by the same name might be able to plead and be impleaded and to prosecute all manner of causes plaints actions real and personal and mixed of what kind or nature soever they should be And also to answer and defend under the name aforesaid in the same causes plaints and actions before whatsoever Judges secular and ecclesiastical in whatsoever Courts and places of him his heirs or successors and in whatsoever Courts and places of other persons whomsoever within his realm of England according to the laws and customs of the same realm and to do and receive all other things as and in like manner as his other lieges persons able and capable within his said realm pleaded and were impleaded answered and were bound to answer and did and had been able to do in whatsoever the Courts and places aforesaid according to the laws and customs aforesaid And that they and their successors might have a Common Seal for transacting their business and deeds And that the said Master and Wardens and with them the other Brethren of the Fraternity aforesaid and their successors might and might be able lawfully to make lawful and honest Assemblies and Conferences amongst themselves and lawful Statutes and Ordinances for the wholesome governance of the said Fraternity according to the necessity of the case as often as and when need should be As in the same Letters Patent more fully is contained And Whereas also the Lord Edward the Fourth our grandfather late King of England by his Letters Patent the date whereof is at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of April in the twentieth year of his reign of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere motion did grant and give licence for himself and his heirs to his beloved

liegemen JOHN BRITTE HENRY LEE and THOMAS WYMONDE that they or any or any one of them might make found and establish to the praise glory and honour of God and of the most Glorious Virgin Mary his mother a certain Fraternity or Guild perpetual of three Wardens and a Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of his City of London and the Suburbs of the same then dwelling and thereafter to dwell and to the Brethren and Sisters of the Freemen of the same Mystery or Craft and to others who of their devotion might wish to be of the same Fraternity or Guild within the City aforesaid to continue for all time to come And that the same Wardens and Commonalty should from thenceforth be one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of three Wardens and a Commonalty And that they should be persons able and capable in law to purchase and receive in fee and perpetuity lands tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever of whatsoever person or persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them To have and to hold to the same Wardens and Commonalty and their successors for ever And that they should have perpetual succession and a Common Seal to serve for the business of the said Mystery or Craft and Fraternity or Guild aforesaid for ever And that the same Wardens and Commonalty by the name of the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the City of London should be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices and Judges in whatsoever actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they might be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid whensoever they would in every year should be able to elect and make from among themselves three Wardens to support the business of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty and Fraternity or Guild aforesaid and to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Craft and Commonalty aforesaid and all the Men and Occupiers Serving-men Stuffs and Workmanship of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and their defaults duly to correct and cause to be corrected And that the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid and their successors should be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances and Constitutions for the good rule and governance of the same Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid so often as it should please them and be necessary and to alter the same at their pleasure by the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being without the impeachment or molestation of him or his heirs the Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other the Officers or Ministers of him or his said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in

Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever notwithstanding As in the same Letters Patent more fully is contained We of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion and with a feeling of charity and of and with the advice of our Council and also at the humble personal and special supplication requisition and assent of the well-beloved and faithful the Men our lieges Free Citizens of our said City as well of the said Mystery of the Shearmen as of the said Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the same City have granted and given licence and by these presents will give licence and grant for us and our heirs as much as in us is to the same our lieges the Men our Citizens of the said Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and to the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen in the City of London and to the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the City of London aforesaid that hereafter and from henceforth our said lieges the Men and Citizens of the said Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and the said Master the said two Crafts or Mysteries and the Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers and also the said two Fraternities shall be together and may be united conjoined created erected and established and by these presents we unite and conjoin the same two Crafts or Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and also the Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers and all the Men of the same Crafts or Mysteries and the said two Fraternities into one whole Art or Mystery and into one Fraternity And that they be henceforth in deed and in name one Body one Art one Mystery one Fraternity and one perpetual Commonalty in and by the name of Clothworkers only and solely for ever And that from henceforth they be so designated named called and accepted in the same City and elsewhere in what manner soever and not otherwise And that they and their successors may begin unite conjoin found create erect and establish in the City aforesaid a certain Guild or Fraternity in honour of the Blessed and Glorious Virgin Mary And the Guild or Fraternity so begun united conjoined founded created erected and established they may be able to have and to hold and the same to enjoy and exercise to them and their successors to continue for all time to come And that such Guild or Fraternity be called the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Clothworkers in the City of London And that they and their successors may be able to increase and augment the same Guild or Fraternity

and may be able to hold that Guild or Fraternity of whatsoever persons natives whom they shall be willing to receive into the same Guild or Fraternity And also that they and their successors may be able to elect have and make among and from themselves one Master and four Wardens from year to year or as often it shall please them or need shall be for the governance keeping and rule of the said Guild or Fraternity of Clothworkers for ever as it shall best please them and to remove them or any of them as often as it shall be necessary and to elect anew and institute others or another as to them shall seem best And we have transferred and changed and by these presents we do transfer and change and ordain the same Fraternity of Shearmen and also the aforesaid Fraternity of Fullers in the City of London into the name of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Clothworkers in the City of London and the said Master and Wardens of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fullers into the name of one Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London and do make them one Body and declare accept and approve of them for one Body and also hold them for one Body And that the same Master and Wardens of the Clothworkers be from henceforth one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of one Master and four Wardens of the Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London And that they be persons able and capable in law to purchase receive demise and alienate in fee and perpetuity lands and tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever as well of us as of whatsoever person or whatsoever persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them and not by any other name To have and to hold to the same Master and Wardens and Commonalty of Clothworkers and their successors for ever And that they have perpetual succession and a Common Seal to serve for the business of the said Mystery or Art and Fraternity of Clothworkers aforesaid for ever And that the same Master Wardens and Commonalty may by the name of the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and not by any other name be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices or Judges in whatsoever causes actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they shall be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid whensoever they would may be able in every year

and at whatsoever fit times to elect and make from among themselves one Master and four Wardens to continue for one year to support the business of the same Mystery or Art and of the Commonalty and Fraternity or Guild of Clothworkers aforesaid to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Art and Commonalty of Clothworkers aforesaid and all the Men Occupiers Serving-men Stuffs and Workers of the same Mystery or Art and Commonalty of Clothworkers in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and duly to correct and cause to be corrected the defaults thereof And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors for the time being according to the tenor of a certain Statute of the Most Illustrious King Henry the Seventh our father published and provided [in the Parliament] holden at Westminster in the nineteenth year of his reign shall and may be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances Constitutions and Statutes for the good rule and wholesome governance of the same Mystery or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid so often as it shall please them and be necessary and to alter them at their pleasure without the impeachment or molestation of us or our heirs Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other Officers or Ministers of us or our said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever notwithstanding And that the Master and Wardens of the Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors may be able in every year or in alternate years at their pleasure to make and have one Livery or Livery of Clothing of one suit among the Citizens of the same City the then Brethren and Sisters of the said Fraternity of Clothworkers most sufficient thereunto and the same clothing honestly to use so often as and whensoever it shall please them and may hold and keep their Feast or Entertainment of meat and drink in a convenient place on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary or thereabouts as often as and whensoever it shall please them And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of Clothworkers may have possess hold and enjoy to them and their successors for ever all the goods and chattels lands tenements rents reversions and services possessions and hereditaments whatsoever which the aforesaid late Master and Wardens of the said Mystery of Shearmen or the Wardens and Commonalty of the said Art or Mystery of Fullers in the City of London jointly or severally now have or heretofore had possessed or held And also all and all manner of liberties franchises customs and privileges which the said Master and Wardens of the Mystery of Shearmen or the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or

Mystery of Fullers in the City of London had and heretofore had possessed held or used **Moreover** we will and grant for us our heirs and successors that the Master and Wardens of the Art or Mystery aforesaid of Clothworkers for the time being and their successors for ever together with the Mayor of the City aforesaid for the time being or his Deputy may have make and exercise within the City aforesaid the Liberties and Suburbs of the same full and entire oversight search governance and correction as well of all and singular Freemen Natives of the said City as of Foreigners or Strangers of any or whatsoever Art or Mystery or Mysteries whatsoever using the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers or the Mystery of Shearmen or the Art or Mystery of Fullers or anything heretofore appertaining to either of the Mysteries in the same City the Liberties and Suburbs of the same and of every thing at any time touching either of those Mysteries as well concerning the working of whatsoever Woollen Cloths and Fustians as concerning all goods and things at any time belonging or relating to either of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid although the said Cloth and Fustian shall be made or worked within the said City the Liberties and Suburbs of the same by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Strangers and [brought] from whatsoever parts of this our realm of England or parts beyond the seas or elsewhere by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Strangers to the same our City or the Suburbs of the same And also of all the Foreigners Strangers whomsoever in any wise practising exercising or using either of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or anything at any time appertaining to either of the same Mysteries or Arts within the same City and the Suburbs of the same **And that** they may have the punishment of all Men as well Freemen Natives as Foreigners and Strangers for their offences in and for not perfectly working executing making and using in the working of the said Woollen Cloths and Fustians and other things aforesaid as often as and when need shall be for the advantage and benefit of whomsoever our lieges and others whomsoever So that the punishment of such Freemen Natives Foreigners or Strangers so offending in the premises shall be executed by the Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers according to the Law of England and the Ordinances and Statutes therefore published and the customs of our City of London And that no Foreigner nor Stranger may use the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers nor either Art of the Arts aforesaid or the working of Woollen Cloths and Fustians or either of them or any things at any time concerning the Mysteries or Arts aforesaid within the said City of London or the Suburbs of the same Unless he be admitted as a fit competent and sufficient workman and artificer of the same by the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers to

exercise or use such Arts or Mysteries and Workings And further we will and by these our Letters we have granted to the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers and their successors that no officer minister artificer merchant or any other person whosoever from henceforth search or in any wise henceforth presume to search any our privileged liegeman practising that Art nor his goods workings nor merchandize except only the Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors for the time being together with the Mayor of the said City for the time being or his Deputy as is aforesaid Albeit express mention of the true annual value or of any other value or certainty of the premises or of any one of them or of other gifts or grants by us or our progenitors to the aforesaid Master and Wardens of Clothworkers and their successors heretofore made be not made in these presents or any Statute Act Ordinance provision or restriction to the contrary made published ordained provided or restricted or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent Witness myself at Westminster the eighteenth day of January in the nineteenth year of our reign.

WOLMAN.

By Writ of Privy Seal and of the date aforesaid by the authority of Parliament.

"*Enrolled.*"

Endorsed :

"It is enrolled in the Memoranda of the Exchequer of the twentieth year of King Henry the Eighth, among the Records of Easter Term, Roll——; on behalf of the King's Remembrancer."

"It is enrolled in the Memoranda of the Exchequer of the first year of Queen Mary, among the Records of Hilary Term, Roll——; on behalf of the Treasurer's Remembrancer."

The Great Seal attached.

IV.

Charter of Confirmation

GRANTED TO

THE CLOTHWORKERS OF LONDON

BY

PHILIP AND MARY.

4th June, 4 and 5 Philip and Mary, A.D. 1558.

Philip and Mary by the Grace of God King and Queen of England Spain France of both the Sicilies Jerusalem and Ireland Defenders of the Faith Archduke and Duchess of Austria Duke and Duchess of Burgundy Milan and Brabant Count and Countess of Hapsburg Flanders and the Tyrol **To all** to whom the present letters shall come Greeting **We have inspected** certain Letters Patent of Confirmation of the Lord Henry the Eighth late King of England the most dearly beloved father of us the aforesaid Queen made in these words:

Henry the Eighth by the Grace of God King of England and France Defender of the Faith and Lord of Ireland To all to whom the present letters shall come Greeting **Whereas** the most illustrious the Lord Henry the Seventh late King of England our father did by his Letters Patent the date whereof is at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of January in the twenty-third year of his reign of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere motion and with a feeling of charity which he had and bore towards the Blessed Virgin Mary grant and give licence and by the same letters gave licence and granted as much as in him was to his beloved lieges the Men of the Mystery of the Shearmen within the City of London that they and their successors in the City aforesaid might begin unite found create erect and establish a Guild or Fraternity in honour of the same Virgin of the Men of the Mystery aforesaid and of

others and the Guild or Fraternity so begun united founded created erected and established might have and hold and the same use and enjoy to them and their successors to endure for all time to come And that they and their successors might hold the same Guild or Fraternity of the aforesaid Mystery of Shearmen and of whatsoever persons whom they should be willing to receive into the same Guild within the Fraternity aforesaid And also that they and their successors might be able to elect have and make one Master and two Wardens from among themselves from year to year or as often as it should please them or need should be for the governance keeping and rule of the said Fraternity for ever as to them should seem best And further of his more abundant grace and at the supplication of his said lieges of such Mystery aforesaid he willed and granted for him and his heirs as much as in him was that the same Master and Wardens and their successors might be perpetual and capable and the said Fraternity might be of itself an entire united and perpetual corporate Fraternity And that it should be from thenceforth for ever called the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary the Virgin of Shearmen of the City of London And he did incorporate the said Master and Wardens and their successors and also the Fraternity aforesaid to endure for all time to come and made them one Body and declared accepted and approved them as one Body and also held them as one Body And that in like manner they should be called by the name of the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and by the same name might be perpetual and able and capable to sue for receive and procure lands and tenements annuities rents services and emoluments whatsoever rights hereditaments and possessions temporal and spiritual To have and to hold to them and their successors for ever And by the same name might be able to plead and be impleaded and to prosecute all manner of causes plaints actions real and personal and mixed of what kind or nature soever they should be And also to answer and defend under the name aforesaid in the same causes plaints and actions before whatsoever Judges secular and ecclesiastical in whatsoever Courts and places of him his heirs or successors and in whatsoever Courts and places of other persons whomsoever within his realm of England according to the laws and customs of the same realm and to do and receive all other things as and in like manner as his other lieges persons able and capable within his said realm pleaded and were impleaded answered and were bound to answer and did and had been able to do in whatsoever the Courts and places aforesaid according to the laws and customs aforesaid And that they and their successors might have a Common Seal for transacting their business and deeds And that the said Master and Wardens and with them the other Brethren of the Fraternity aforesaid and their successors might and might be

able lawfully to make lawful and honest Assemblies and Conferences amongst themselves and lawful Statutes and Ordinances for the wholesome governance of the said Fraternity according to the necessity of the case as often as and when need should be As in the same Letters Patent more fully is contained And Whereas also the Lord Edward the Fourth our grandfather late King of England by his Letters Patent the date whereof is at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of April in the twentieth year of his reign of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere motion did grant and give licence for himself and his heirs to his beloved liegemen John Britte Henry Lee and Thomas Wymonde that they or any or any one of them might make found and establish to the praise glory and honour of God and of the most Glorious Virgin Mary his mother a certain Fraternity or Guild perpetual of three Wardens and a Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of his City of London and the Suburbs of the same then dwelling and thereafter to dwell and to the Brethren and Sisters of the Freemen of the same Mystery or Craft and to others who of their devotion might wish to be of the same Fraternity or Guild within the City aforesaid to continue for all time to come And that the same Wardens and Commonalty should from thenceforth be one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of three Wardens and a Commonalty And that they should be persons able and capable in law to purchase and receive in fee and perpetuity lands tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever of whatsoever person or persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them To have and to hold to the same Wardens and Commonalty and their successors for ever And that they should have perpetual succession and a Common Seal to serve for the business of the said Mystery or Craft and Fraternity or Guild aforesaid for ever And that the same Wardens and Commonalty by the name of the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the City of London should be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices and Judges in whatsoever actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they might be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid whensoever they would in every year should be able to elect and make from among themselves three Wardens to support the business of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty and Fraternity or Guild aforesaid and to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Craft and Commonalty aforesaid and all the Men and Occupiers Serving-men Stuffs and Workmanship of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and their defaults duly to correct and cause to be corrected And that the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty

of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid and their successors should he able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances and Constitutions for the good rule and governance of the same Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid so often as it should please them and be necessary and to alter the same at their pleasure by the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being without the impeachment or molestation of him [his] heirs or successors Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or others the Officers or Ministers of him or his said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever notwithstanding As in the same Letters Patent more fully is contained We of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere [motion] and with a feeling of charity and of and with the advice of our Council and also at the humble personal and special supplication requisition and assent of the well-beloved and faithful the Men our lieges Free Citizens of our said City as well of the said Mystery of the Shearmen as of the said Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the same City have granted and given licence and by these presents will give licence and grant for us and our heirs as much as in us is to the same our lieges the Men our Citizens of the said Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and to the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin [Mary] of Shearmen in the City of London and to the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the City of London aforesaid that hereafter and from henceforth our said lieges the Men and Citizens of the said Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and the said Master the said two Crafts or Mysteries and the Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers and also the said two Fraternities shall be together and may be united conjoined created erected and established and by these presents we unite and conjoin the same two Crafts or Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and also the Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers and all the Men of the same Crafts or Mysteries and the said two Fraternities into one whole Art or Mystery and into one Fraternity And that they be henceforth in deed and in name one Body one Art one Mystery one Fraternity and one perpetual Commonalty in and by the name of Clothworkers only and solely for ever And that from henceforth they be so designated named called and accepted in the same City and elsewhere in what manner soever and not otherwise And that they and their

successors may begin unite conjoin found create erect and establish in the City aforesaid a certain Guild or Fraternity in honour of the Blessed and Glorious Virgin Mary And the Guild or Fraternity so begun united conjoined founded created erected and established they may be able to have and to hold and the same to enjoy and exercise to them and their successors to continue for all time to come And that such Guild or Fraternity be called the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Clothworkers in the City of London And that they and their successors may be able to increase and augment the same Guild or Fraternity and may be able to hold that Guild or Fraternity of whatsoever persons natives whom they may be able to receive into the same Guild or Fraternity And also that they and their successors may be able to elect have and make among and from themselves one Master and four Wardens from year to year or as often it shall please them or need [shall be] for the governance keeping and rule of the said Guild or Fraternity of Clothworkers for ever as it shall best please them and to remove them or any of them as often as it shall be necessary and to elect anew and institute others or another as to them shall seem best And we have transferred and changed and by these presents we do transfer and change and ordain the same Fraternity of Shearmen and also the aforesaid Fraternity of Fullers in the City of London into the name of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Clothworkers in the City of London and the said Master and Wardens of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fullers into the name of one Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London and do make them one Body and declare accept and approve of them for one Body and also hold them for one Body And that the same Master and Wardens of the Clothworkers be from henceforth one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of one Master and four Wardens of the Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London And that they be persons able and capable in law to purchase receive demise and alienate in fee and perpetuity lands and tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever as well of us as of whatsoever person or whatsoever persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them and not by any other name To have and to hold to the same Master and Wardens and Commonalty of Clothworkers and their successors for ever And that they have perpetual succession and a Common Seal to serve for the business of the said Mystery or Art and Fraternity of Clothworkers aforesaid for ever And that the same Master

Wardens and Commonalty may by the name of the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and not by any other name be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices or Judges in whatsoever causes actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they shall be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid whensoever they would may be able in every year and at whatsoever fit times to elect and make from among themselves one Master and four Wardens to continue for one year to support the business of the same Mystery or Art and of the Commonalty and Fraternity or Guild of Clothworkers aforesaid to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Art and Commonalty of Clothworkers aforesaid and all the Men Occupiers Serving-men Stuffs and Workers of the same Mystery or Art and Commonalty of Clothworkers in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and duly to correct and [cause to be] corrected the defaults thereof And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors for the time being according to the tenor of a certain Statute of the Most Illustrious King Henry the Seventh our father published and provided [in the Parliament] holden at Westminster in the nineteenth year of his reign shall and may be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances Constitutions and Statutes for the good rule and wholesome governance of the same Mystery or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid so often as it shall please them and be necessary and to alter them at their pleasure without the impeachment or molestation of us or our heirs Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other Officers or Ministers of us or our said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever notwithstanding And that the Master and Wardens of the Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors may be able in every year or in alternate years at their pleasure to make and have one Livery or Livery of Clothing of one suit among the Citizens of the same City the then Brethren and Sisters of the said Fraternity of Clothworkers most sufficient thereunto and the same Clothing honestly to use so often as and whensoever it shall please them and may hold and keep their Feast or Entertainment of meat and drink in a convenient place on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary or thereabouts as often as and whensoever it shall please them And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of Clothworkers may have possess hold and enjoy to them and their successors for ever all the goods and chattels lands tenements rents reversions and services possessions and hereditaments

whatsoever which the aforesaid late Master and Wardens of the said Mystery of Shearmen or the Wardens and Commonalty of the said Art or Mystery of Fullers in the City of London jointly or severally now have or heretofore had possessed or held And also all and all manner of liberties franchises customs and privileges which the said Master and Wardens of the Mystery of Shearmen or the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Fullers in the City of London had and heretofore had possessed held or used **Moreover** we will and grant for us our heirs and successors that the Master and Wardens of the Art or Mystery aforesaid of Clothworkers for the time being and their successors for ever together with the Mayor of the City aforesaid for the time being or his Deputy may have make and exercise within the City aforesaid the Liberties and Suburbs of the same full and entire oversight search governance and correction as well of all and singular Freemen Natives of the said City as of Foreigners or Strangers of any or whatsoever Art or Mystery or Mysteries whatsoever using the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers or the Mystery of Shearmen or the Art or Mystery of Fullers or any thing heretofore appertaining to either of the Mysteries in the same City the Liberties and Suburbs of the same and of every thing at any time touching either of those Mysteries as well concerning the working of whatsoever Woollen Cloths and Fustians as concerning all goods and things at any time belonging or relating to either of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid although the said Cloth and Fustian shall be made or worked within the said City the Liberties and Suburbs of the same by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Strangers and [brought] from whatsoever parts of this our realm of England or parts beyond the seas or elsewhere by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Strangers to the same our City or the Suburbs of the same And also of all other Foreigners Strangers whomsoever in any wise practising exercising or using either of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or any thing at any time appertaining to either of the same Mysteries or Arts within the same City and the Suburbs of the same **And that** they may have the punishment of all Men as well Freemen Natives as Foreigners and Strangers for their offences in and for not perfectly working executing making and using in the working of the said Woollen Cloths and Fustians and other things aforesaid as often as and when need shall be for the advantage and benefit of whomsoever our lieges and others whomsoever So that the punishment of such Freemen Natives Foreigners or Strangers so offending in the premises shall be executed by the Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity or Art of Clothworkers according to the Law of England and the Ordinances and Statutes therefore published and the customs of our City of London And that no Foreigner nor Stranger may use the said Art

or Mystery of Clothworkers nor either Art of the Arts aforesaid or the working of Woollen Cloths and Fustians or either of them or any things at any time concerning the Mysteries or Arts aforesaid within the said City of London or the Suburbs of the same Unless he be admitted as a fit competent and sufficient workman and artificer of the same by the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers to exercise or use such Arts or Mysteries and Workings **And further** we will and by these our Letters we have granted to the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers and their successors that no officer minister artificer merchant or any other person whosoever from henceforth search or in any wise henceforth presume to search any our privileged liegeman practising that Art nor his goods workings nor merchandize except only the Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors for the time being together with the Mayor of the said City for the time being or his Deputy as is aforesaid Albeit express mention of the true annual value or of any other value or certainty of the premises or of any one of them or of other gifts or grants by us or our progenitors to the aforesaid Master and Wardens of Clothworkers and their successors heretofore made be not made in these presents or any Statute Act Ordinance provision or restriction to the contrary made published ordained provided or restricted or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in any wise notwithstanding **In witness** whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent **Witness** myself at Westminster the eighteenth day of January in the nineteenth year of our reign

And we ratifying and approving the tenor of the Letters Patent aforesaid and all and singular the things contained and specified in the same do for us and our successors as much as in us lies accept and approve the same and do ratify and confirm them to Thomas Ormeston now Master of the Art aforesaid Rowland Heywarde Robert Cristofer Ralph Barnarde and William Petyngar Wardens of the same Art and their successors as the Letters aforesaid reasonably do witness **In witness** whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent **Witness** ourselves at Westminster the fourth day of June in the fourth and fifth years of our reign.

LUTLEY.

At the foot: The fine is taxed at—iij *li.* vj *s.* viij *d.*

NICHOLAS EBOR, *Chancellor.*

Examined by us { Anthony Huse. Henry Hervy.

The Great Seal attached.

V.

Charter of Confirmation

GRANTED TO

THE CLOTHWORKERS OF LONDON

BY

QUEEN ELIZABETH.

8th July, 2 Elizabeth, A.D. 1560.

Elizabeth by the grace of God of England France and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith &c **To all** to whom the present letters shall come Greeting **We have inspected** the Letters Patent of Confirmation of the Lord Philip and the Lady Mary late King and Queen of England made in these words:

Philip and Mary by the grace of God King and Queen of England Spain France of both the Sicilies Jerusalem and Ireland Defenders of the Faith Archduke and Duchess of Austria Duke and Duchess of Burgundy Milan and Brabant Count and Countess of Hapsburg Flanders and the Tyrol **To all** to whom the present letters shall come Greeting **We have inspected** certain Letters Patent of Confirmation of the Lord Henry the Eighth late King of England the most dearly beloved father of us the aforesaid Queen made in these words:

Henry the Eighth by the grace of God King of England and France Defender of the Faith and Lord of Ireland To all to whom the present letters shall come Greeting **Whereas** the most illustrious the Lord Henry the Seventh late King of England our father did by his Letters Patent the date whereof is at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of January in the twenty-third year of his reign of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere motion and with a feeling of charity which he had and bore towards the Blessed Virgin Mary grant and give licence and by the same letters gave licence and granted as much as in him was to his beloved

lieges the Men of the Mystery of the Shearmen within the City of London that they and their successors in the City aforesaid might begin unite found create erect and establish a Guild or Fraternity in honour of the same Virgin of the Men of the Mystery aforesaid and of others and the Guild or Fraternity so begun united founded created erected and established might have and hold and the same use and enjoy to them and their successors to endure for all time to come And that they and their successors might hold the same Guild or Fraternity of the aforesaid Mystery of Shearmen and of whatsoever persons whom they should be willing to receive into the same Guild within the Fraternity aforesaid And also that they and their successors might be able to elect have and make one Master and two Wardens from among themselves from year to year or as often as it should please them or need should be for the governance keeping and rule of the said Fraternity for ever as to them should seem best And further of his more abundant grace and at the supplication of his said lieges of such Mystery aforesaid he willed and granted for him and his heirs as much as in him was that the same Master and Wardens and their successors might be perpetual and capable and the said Fraternity might be of itself an entire united and perpetual corporate Fraternity And that it should be from thenceforth for ever called the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary the Virgin of Shearmen of the City of London And he did incorporate the said Master and Wardens and their successors and also the Fraternity aforesaid to endure for all time to come and made them one Body and declared accepted and approved them as one Body and also held them as one Body And that in like manner they should be called by the name of the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and by the same name might be perpetual and able and capable to sue for receive and procure lands and tenements annuities rents services and emoluments whatsoever rights hereditaments and possessions temporal and spiritual To have and to hold to them and their successors for ever And by the same name might be able to plead and be impleaded and to prosecute all manner of causes plaints actions real and personal and mixed of what kind or nature soever they should be And also to answer and defend under the name aforesaid in the same causes plaints and actions before whatsoever Judges secular and ecclesiastical in whatsoever Courts and places of him his heirs or successors and in whatsoever Courts and places of other persons whomsoever within his realm of England according to the laws and customs of the same realm and to do and receive all other things as and in like manner as his other lieges persons able and capable within his said realm pleaded and were impleaded answered and were bound to answer and did and had been able to do in whatsoever

the Courts and places aforesaid according to the laws and customs aforesaid And that they and their successors might have a Common Seal for transacting their business and deeds And that the said Master and Wardens and with them the other Brethren of the Fraternity aforesaid and their successors might and might be able lawfully to make lawful and honest Assemblies and Conferences amongst themselves and lawful Statutes and Ordinances for the wholesome governance of the said Fraternity according to the necessity of the case as often as and when need should be As in the same Letters Patent more fully is contained And Whereas also the Lord Edward the Fourth our grandfather late King of England by his Letters Patent the date whereof is at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of April in the twentieth year of his reign of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere motion did grant and give licence for himself and his heirs to his beloved liegemen John Butte[1] Henry Lee and Thomas Wymonde that they or any or any one of them might make found and establish to the praise glory and honour of God and of the most Glorious Virgin Mary his mother a certain Fraternity or Guild perpetual of three Wardens and a Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of his City of London and the Suburbs of the same then dwelling and thereafter to dwell and to the Brethren and Sisters of the Freemen of the same Mystery or Craft and to others who of their devotion might wish to be of the same Fraternity or Guild within the City aforesaid to continue for all time to come And that the same Wardens and Commonalty should from thenceforth be one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of three Wardens and a Commonalty And that they should be persons able and capable in law to purchase and receive in fee and perpetuity lands tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever of whatsoever person or persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them To have and to hold to the same Wardens and Commonalty and their successors for ever And that they should have perpetual succession and a Common Seal to serve for the business of the said Mystery or Craft and Fraternity or Guild aforesaid for ever And that the same Wardens and Commonalty by the name of the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the City of London should be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices and Judges in whatsoever actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they might be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid whensoever they would in every year should be able to elect and make from among themselves three Wardens to support the business of the same Mystery or

[1] *Sic*, but the name is *Britte* in the Charter of Edward IV.

Craft and Commonalty and Fraternity or Guild aforesaid and to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Craft and Commonalty aforesaid and all the Men and Occupiers Serving-men Stuffs and Workmanship of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and their defaults duly to correct and cause to be corrected And that the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid and their successors should be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances and Constitutions for the good rule and governance of the same Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid so often as it should please them and be necessary and to alter the same at their pleasure by the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being without the impeachment or molestation of him [his] heirs or successors the Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other the Officers or Ministers of him or his said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever notwithstanding As in the same Letters Patent more fully is contained We of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion and with a feeling of charity and of and with the advice of our Council and also at the humble personal and special supplication requisition and assent of the well-beloved and faithful the Men our lieges Free Citizens of our said City as well of the said Mystery of the Shearmen as of the said Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the same City have granted and given licence and by these presents will give licence and grant for us and our heirs as much as in us is to the same our lieges the Men our Citizens of the said Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and to the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen in the City of London and to the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the City of London aforesaid that hereafter and from henceforth our said lieges the Men and Citizens of the said Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and the said Master the said two Crafts or Mysteries and the Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers and also the said two Fraternities shall be together and may be united conjoined created erected and established and by these presents we unite and conjoin the same two Crafts or Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and also the Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers and all the Men of the same Crafts or Mysteries and the said two Fraternities into one

whole Art or Mystery and into one Fraternity And that they be henceforth in deed and in name one Body one Art one Mystery one Fraternity and one perpetual Commonalty in and by the name of Clothworkers only and solely for ever And that from henceforth they be so designated named called and accepted in the same City and elsewhere in what manner soever and not otherwise And that they and their successors may begin unite conjoin found create erect and establish in the City aforesaid a certain Guild or Fraternity in honour of the Blessed and Glorious Virgin Mary And the Guild or Fraternity so begun united conjoined founded created erected and established they may be able to have and to hold and the same to enjoy and exercise to them and their successors to continue for all time to come And that such Guild or Fraternity be called the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Clothworkers in the City of London And that they and their successors may be able to increase and augment the same Guild or Fraternity and may be able to hold that Guild or Fraternity of whatsoever persons natives whom they shall be willing to receive into the same Guild or Fraternity And also that they and their successors may be able to elect have and make among and from themselves one Master and four Wardens from year to year or as often it shall please them or need shall be for the governance keeping and rule of the said Guild or Fraternity of Clothworkers for ever as it shall best please them and to remove them or any of them as often as it shall be necessary and to elect anew and institute others or another as to them shall seem best And we have transferred and changed and by these presents we do transfer and change and ordain the same Fraternity of Shearmen and also the aforesaid Fraternity of Fullers in the City of London into the name of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Clothworkers in the City of London and the said Master and Wardens of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fullers into the name of one Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London and do make them one Body and declare accept and approve of them for one Body and also hold them for one Body And that the same Master and Wardens of the Clothworkers be from henceforth one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of one Master and four Wardens of the Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London And that they be persons able and capable in law to purchase receive demise and alienate in fee and perpetuity lands and tenements rents and

other possessions whatsoever as well of us as of whatsoever person or whatsoever persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them and not by any other name To have and to hold to the same Master and Wardens and Commonalty of Clothworkers and their successors for ever And that they have perpetual succession and a Common Seal to serve for the business of the said Mystery or Art and Fraternity of Clothworkers aforesaid for ever And that the same Master Wardens and Commonalty may by the name of the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and not by any other name be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices or Judges in whatsoever causes actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they shall be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid whensoever they would may be able in every year and at whatsoever fit times to elect and make from among themselves one Master and four Wardens to continue for one year to support the business of the same Mystery or Art and of the Commonalty and Fraternity or Guild of Clothworkers aforesaid to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Art and Commonalty of Clothworkers aforesaid and all the Men Occupiers Serving-men Stuffs and Workers of the same Mystery or Art and Commonalty of Clothworkers in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and duly to correct and [cause to be] corrected the defaults thereof And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors for the time being according to the tenor of a certain Statute of the Most Illustrious King Henry the Seventh our father published and provided [in the Parliament] holden at Westminster in the nineteenth year of his reign shall and may be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances Constitutions and Statutes for the good rule and wholesome governance of the same Mystery or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid so often as it shall please them and be necessary and to alter them at their pleasure without the impeachment or molestation of us or our heirs Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other Officers or Ministers of us or our said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding And that the Master and Wardens of the Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors may be able in every year or in alternate years at their pleasure to make and have one Livery or Livery of Clothing of one suit among the Citizens of the same City the then Brethren and Sisters of the said Fraternity

of Clothworkers most sufficient thereunto and the same Clothing honestly to use so often as and whensoever it shall please them and may hold and keep their Feast or Entertainment of meat and drink in a convenient place on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary or thereabouts as often as and whensoever it shall please them And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of Clothworkers may have possess hold and enjoy to them and their successors for ever all the goods and chattels lands tenements rents reversions and services possessions and hereditaments whatsoever which the aforesaid late Master and Wardens of the said Mystery of Shearmen or the Wardens and Commonalty of the said Art or Mystery of Fullers in the City of London jointly or severally now have or heretofore had possessed or held And also all and all manner of liberties franchises customs and privileges which the said Master and Wardens of the Mystery of Shearmen or the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Fullers in the City of London had and heretofore had possessed held or used Moreover we will and grant for us our heirs and successors that the Master and Wardens of the Art or Mystery aforesaid of Clothworkers for the time being and their successors for ever together with the Mayor of the City aforesaid for the time being or his Deputy may have make and exercise within the City aforesaid the Liberties and Suburbs of the same full and entire oversight search governance and correction as well of all and singular Freemen Natives of the said City as of Foreigners or Strangers of any or whatsoever Art or Mystery or Mysteries whatsoever using the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers or the Mystery of Shearmen or the Art or Mystery of Fullers or anything heretofore appertaining to either of the Mysteries in the same City the Liberties and Suburbs of the same and of every thing at any time touching either of those Mysteries as well concerning the working of whatsoever Woollen Cloths and Fustians as concerning all goods and things at any time belonging or relating to either of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid although the said Cloth and Fustian shall be made or worked within the said City the Liberties and Suburbs of the same by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Strangers and [brought] from whatsoever parts of this our realm of England or parts beyond the seas or elsewhere by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Strangers to the same our City or the Suburbs of the same And also of all the Foreigners Strangers whomsoever in any wise practising exercising or using either of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or anything at any time appertaining to either of the same Mysteries or Arts within the same City and the Suburbs of the same And that they may have the punishment of all Men as well Freemen Natives as Foreigners and Strangers for their offences in and for not perfectly working

executing making and using in the working of the said Woollen Cloths and Fustians and other things aforesaid as often as and when need shall be for the advantage and benefit of whomsoever our lieges and others whomsoever So that the punishment of such Freemen Natives Foreigners or Strangers so offending in the premises shall be executed by the Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers according to the Law of England and the Ordinances and Statutes therefore published and the customs of our City of London And that no Foreigner nor Stranger may use the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers nor either Art of the Arts aforesaid or the working of Woollen Cloths and Fustians or either of them or any things at any time concerning the Mysteries or Arts aforesaid within the said City of London or the Suburbs of the same Unless he be admitted as a fit competent and sufficient workman and artificer of the same by the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers to exercise or use such Arts or Mysteries and Workings **And further** we will and by these our Letters we have granted to the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers and their successors that no officer minister artificer merchant or any other person whosoever from henceforth search or in any wise henceforth presume to search any our privileged liegeman practising that Art nor his goods workings nor merchandize except only the Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors for the time being together with the Mayor of the said City for the time being or his Deputy as is aforesaid Albeit express mention of the true annual value or of any other value or certainty of the premises or of any one of them or of other gifts or grants by us or our progenitors to the aforesaid Master and Wardens of Clothworkers and their successors heretofore made be not made in these presents or any Statute Act Ordinance provision or restriction to the contrary made published ordained provided or restricted or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding **In witness** whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent **Witness** myself at Westminster the eighteenth day of January in the nineteenth year of our reign

And we ratifying and approving the tenor of the Letters Patent aforesaid and all and singular the things contained and specified in the same do for us and our successors as much as in us lies accept and approve the same and do ratify and confirm [them] to Thomas Ormeston now Master of the Art aforesaid Rowland Heywarde Robert Cristofer Ralph Barnarde and William Petyngar Wardens of the same Art and their successors as the letters aforesaid reasonably do witness **In witness** whereof we have caused these our letters to be made

patent Witness ourselves at Westminster the fourth day of June in the fourth and fifth years of our reign

And we ratifying and approving the Letters aforesaid and all and singular the things contained in the same do for us our heirs and successors as far as in us lies accept and approve the same and do ratify and confirm them by the tenor of these presents to our well-beloved Rouland Haywarde the now Master and James Hawes William Wilson Edward Dove and Thomas Gybson the now Wardens of the aforesaid Art or Mystery of Clothworkers and their successors as the aforesaid Letters reasonably do witness In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent Witness myself at Westminster the eighth day of July in the second year of our reign.

" The fine is taxed at—iiij *li.* vj *s.* viij *d.*

BACON.

Examined by us { John Vaughan and J. Bayer } Clerks."

The Great Seal attached.

VI.

The Charter

GRANTED BY

KING CHARLES THE FIRST

TO

THE CLOTHWORKERS' COMPAN ,

24th April, 9 *Charles I.*, *A.D.* 1633.

harles by the grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c To all to whom these presents shall come Greeting We have Inspected the Letters Patent of our late most dearly beloved sister the Lady Elizabeth late Queen of England made under her Great Seal of England the tenor whereof followeth in these words Elizabeth by the grace of God of England France and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith &c To all to whom these present Letters shall come Greeting Whereas the Lord Edward the Fourth late King of England our great-grandfather by his Letters Patent the date whereof is at Westminster the twenty-eighth day of April in the twentieth year of his reign of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere motion did grant and give licence for himself and his heirs to his well-beloved lieges John Butt[1] Henry Lee and Thomas Wymond that they or any or any one of them might make found and establish to the praise glory and honour of God and of the most Glorious Virgin Mary his mother a certain Fraternity or Guild perpetual of three Wardens and a Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of his City of London and the Suburbs of the same then dwelling and thereafter to dwell and to the Brethren and Sisters of the Freemen of the same Mystery or Craft

[1] *Britte* in the Charter of Edward IV.

and to others who of their devotion might wish to be of the same Fraternity or Guild within the City aforesaid to continue for all time to come And that the same Wardens and Commonalty should from thenceforth be one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of three Wardens and a Commonalty And that they should be persons able and capable in Law to purchase and receive in fee and perpetuity lands tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever of whatsoever person or persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them **To have** and to hold to the same Wardens and Commonalty and their successors for ever And that they should have perpetual succession and a Common Seal to serve for the business of the said Mystery or Craft and Fraternity or Guild aforesaid for ever And that the said Wardens and Commonalty by the name of the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Craft of Fullers of the City of London should be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices and Judges in whatsoever actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they might be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid whensoever they would in every year should be able to elect and make from among themselves three Wardens to support the business of the same Mystery or Craft and Commonalty and Fraternity or Guild aforesaid to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Craft and Commonalty aforesaid and all the Men Occupiers Servingmen Stuffs and Workmanship of the said Mystery or Craft and Commonalty in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and their defaults duly to correct and cause to be corrected And that the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Craft aforesaid and their successors should be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances and Constitutions for the good rule and governance of the said Mystery or Craft and of the Fraternity or Guild aforesaid so often as it should please them and be necessary and to alter the same at their pleasure by the advice of the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being without the impeachment or molestation of him his heirs or successors the Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other the Officers or Ministers of him or his said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever notwithstanding As in the same Letters Patent is more fully contained **And whereas** the most Illustrious Lord Henry the Seventh late King of England our grandfather did by his Letters Patent the date whereof is at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of January in the twenty-third year of his reign of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere

motion and with a feeling of charity from the especial devotion which he bore and had for the Blessed Virgin Mary grant and give licence and by the same Letters Patent granted and gave licence as much as in him was to his well-beloved lieges the Men of the Mystery of the Shearmen within the City of London That they and their Successors should be able to begin unite found create erect and establish in the City aforesaid in honour of the same Virgin a Guild or Fraternity of the Men of the Mystery aforesaid and of others And to have and hold the Guild or Fraternity so begun united founded created and established And should be able to enjoy and exercise the same to them and their successors to endure for all time to come And that they and their successors should be able to hold the same Guild or Fraternity of the aforesaid Mystery of Shearmen and of whatsoever persons whom they might be willing to receive into the same Guild within the Fraternity aforesaid And also that they and their successors might elect have and make one Master and two Wardens from among themselves from year to year or as often as they pleased or it should be needful for the governance keeping and rule of the said Fraternity for ever as to them should seem best And further of his more ample grace and at the petition of his said lieges the Men of the Mystery aforesaid he did will and grant for himself and his heirs as much as in him was That the said Master and Wardens and their successors should be perpetual and capable and the said Fraternity should be of itself an entire united perpetual corporate Fraternity And that it should from thenceforth for ever be called The Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen of the City of London and he did incorporate the same Master and Wardens and their successors and also the Fraternity aforesaid to continue for all time to come And he did make them one Body and declare accept and approve them as one Body and held them as one Body And that they should be truly called by the name of the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary And by the same name they should be perpetual and able and capable in Law to sue for receive and procure lands and tenements annuities rents services and emoluments whatsoever rights hereditaments and possessions temporal and spiritual To have and to hold to them and their successors for ever And by the same name they should be able to plead and be impleaded and to prosecute all manner of causes plaints actions real and personal and mixed of what kind or nature soever they might be and also to answer and defend under the name aforesaid in the same causes plaints and actions before whatsoever Judges secular and ecclesiastical in whatsoever Courts and places of him his heirs or successors and in whatsoever Courts and places of other persons whomsoever within his Kingdom of England according to the Laws and Customs of

the same Kingdom and to do and receive all other things as and in the same manner as other his liege people persons able and capable within his said Kingdom might plead and be impleaded answer and were bound to answer and might and were able to do in whatsoever the Courts and places aforesaid according to the Laws and Customs aforesaid And that they and their successors should have a Common Seal for transacting their business and Deeds And that the said Master and Wardens and other the secular Brethren of the Fraternity aforesaid and their successors should and might be able lawfully to make lawful and honest Assemblies and Conferences amongst themselves and lawful Statutes and Ordinances for the wholesome governance of the said Fraternity according to the necessity of the case so often as and when it should be needful As in the same Letters Patent is more fully contained And whereas also the Lord Henry the Eighth late King of England our most dearly beloved father by his Letters Patent the date whereof is at Westminster the eighteenth day of January in the nineteenth year of his reign Of his especial grace and of his certain knowledge and mere motion and with a feeling of charity and by and with the advice of his Council and also at the humble personal and special supplication request and assent of his well-beloved and faithful Liegemen the Free Citizens of his said City as well of the said Mystery of the Shearmen as of the said Mystery or Art of Fullers of the same City did grant and give licence and by his same Letters Patent gave licence and granted for himself and his heirs as much as in him was to his said Liegemen his Citizens of the said Mystery of the Shearmen and Fullers and to the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen in the City of London and to the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Art of Fullers of the City of London aforesaid That from thenceforth and thereafter his said lieges the Men and Citizens of the said Mystery of Shearmen and Fullers and the said Master the said two Arts or Mysteries and the Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Art of Fullers and also the said two Fraternities should be one and be united conjoined created erected and established and by his said Letters Patent he did unite and conjoin the same two Arts or Mysteries of Shearmen and Fullers and the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen And also the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Art of Fullers and all the Men of the same Arts or Mysteries and the said two Fraternities into one entire Art or Mystery and into one Fraternity And that they should from thenceforth be in deed and name one Body one Art one Mystery one Fraternity and one perpetual

Commonalty in and by the name of Clothworkers only and solely for ever And that from thenceforth they should be so designated named called and accepted in the same City and elsewhere in any wise and not otherwise And that they and their successors might begin unite conjoin found create erect and establish in the City aforesaid a certain Guild or Fraternity in honour of the Blessed and Glorious Virgin Mary and the Guild or Fraternity so begun united conjoined founded created erected and established they might have and hold and enjoy and exercise the same to them and their successors to endure for evermore And that the said Guild or Fraternity should be called The Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Clothworkers in the City of London And that they and their successors might increase and augment the same Guild or Fraternity and should be able to hold the said Guild or Fraternity of whatsoever persons natives whom they might be willing to receive into the same Guild or Fraternity And also that they and their successors might elect have and make among and from themselves one Master and four Wardens from year to year or as often as they pleased or it should be needful for the governance keeping and rule of the said Guild or Fraternity of Clothworkers for ever in manner as it should best please them and to remove them or any of them as often as it should be necessary and to elect anew and institute others or another as to them should seem best And he did by his same Letters Patent transfer change and ordain the same Fraternity of Shearmen and also the aforesaid Fraternity of Fullers in the City of London into the name of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Clothworkers in the City of London And the said Master and Wardens of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen and the Wardens and Commonalty of the same Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Fullers into the name of one Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London and did make them one Body and declare accept and approve of them for one Body and also held them for one Body And that the same Master and Wardens of Clothworkers should from thenceforth be one Body and one Commonalty corporate in deed and in name of one Master and four Wardens of the Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London And that they should be persons able and capable in Law to purchase receive demise and alienate in fee and perpetuity lands tenements rents and other possessions whatsoever as well of the same late King as of whatsoever person or persons willing to give bequeath grant or assign the same to them and not by any other name **To have** and to hold to the same Master and Wardens and Commonalty of Clothworkers and their successors for ever And that they should have perpetual

succession and a Common Seal to serve for the business of the said Mystery or Art and Fraternity of Clothworkers aforesaid for ever And that the same Master Wardens and Commonalty should by the name of The Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and not by any other name be able to plead and be impleaded answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places before whatsoever Justices or Judges in whatsoever causes actions suits pleas plaints and demands of what condition or nature soever they might be And that the said Commonalty that is to say of the Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid whensoever they would should be able in every year and at whatsoever fit times to elect and make from among themselves one Master and four Wardens to continue for one year to support the business of the said Mystery or Art and of the Commonalty and Fraternity or Guild of Clothworkers aforesaid to oversee rule and govern the Mystery or Art and Commonalty of Clothworkers aforesaid and all the Men and Occupiers Serving-men Stuffs and Workers of the said Mystery or Art and Commonalty of Clothworkers in the City and Suburbs aforesaid for ever and the defaults thereof duly to correct and cause to be corrected And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors for the time being according to the tenor of a certain Statute of the most Illustrious King Henry the Seventh his father published and provided [in the Parliament] holden at Westminster in the nineteenth year of his Reign should and might be able to make and ordain reasonable Ordinances Constitutions and Statutes for the good rule and wholesome governance of the same Mystery or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid so often as it should please them and be necessary and to alter the same at their pleasure without the impeachment or molestation of him or his heirs Justices Mayors Sheriffs Escheators Bailiffs Constables or other Officers or Ministers of him or his said heirs or of others whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance made published or ordained to the contrary or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in any wise notwithstanding And that the Master and Wardens of the Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors might in every year or in alternate years at their pleasure make and have one Livery or Livery of Clothing of one Suit among the Citizens of the same City the then Brethren and Sisters of the same Fraternity of Clothworkers most sufficient thereunto and the same Clothing honestly to use so often as and whensoever they pleased and might hold and keep their Feast or Entertainment of meat and drink in a convenient place on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary or thereabouts as often as and

whensoever it should please them And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of Clothworkers might have possess hold and enjoy to them and their successors for ever all the goods and chattels lands tenements rents and services possessions and hereditaments whatsoever which the aforesaid late Master and Wardens of the said Mystery of Shearmen or the Wardens and Commonalty of the said Art or Mystery of Fullers in the City of London jointly or severally then had or theretofore had had possessed or held And also all and all manner of liberties franchises customs and privileges which the said Master and Wardens of the Mystery of Shearmen or the aforesaid Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Fullers in the City of London had or theretofore had had possessed held or used **Moreover** he did will and grant for himself and his successors that the Master and Wardens of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid for the time being and their successors for ever together with the Mayor of the City aforesaid for the time being or his Deputy should have make and exercise within the City aforesaid the Liberties and Suburbs thereof full and entire oversight search governance and correction as well of all and singular the Men Natives of the said City as of Foreigners and Aliens of any or whatsoever Art or Mystery or Mysteries using the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers or the Mystery of Shearmen or the Art or Mystery of Fullers or any thing theretofore appertaining to either of the Mysteries in the same City the Liberties and Suburbs thereof and of everything at any time touching either of the said Mysteries as well concerning the working of whatsoever Woollen Cloths and Fustians as concerning all goods and things at any time belonging or relating to either of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid although the said Cloth and Fustian should be made or worked within the same City the Liberties and Suburbs thereof by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Aliens and [brought] from whatsoever parts of this Realm of England or parts beyond the Seas or elsewhere by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Aliens to his said City or the Suburbs thereof And also of all other Foreigners [or] Aliens whatsoever in any wise practising exercising or using either of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or any thing at any time appertaining to either of the said Mysteries or Arts within the same City and the Suburbs thereof And that they should have the punishment of all Men as well Freemen Natives as Foreigners and Aliens for their offences in and for not perfectly working executing making and using in the working of the said Woollen Cloths and Fustians and other things aforesaid as often as and when it should be needful for the advantage and benefit of whatsoever his liege people and others whomsoever So that the punishment of such Freemen Natives Foreigners or Aliens so offending in the premises should be executed by the Master

and Wardens of the said Guild and Fraternity or Art of Clothworkers according to the Laws of England and the Ordinances and Statutes therefore published and the custom of his City of London And that no Foreigner nor Alien should use the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers nor either of the Arts aforesaid or the working of Woollen Cloths and Fustians or either of them or any things at any time concerning the Mysteries or Arts aforesaid within the said City of London or the Suburbs thereof unless he should be admitted as a fit competent and sufficient Workman and Maker thereof by the Master and Wardens of the said Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers to exercise or use such Arts or Mysteries and Workings And further he did will and by his said Letters Patent did grant to the aforesaid Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity and Art of Clothworkers and their successors that no Officer Minister Artificer Merchant or any other person whosoever should from thenceforth search or in any manner presume to search any his privileged liegeman practising the said Art nor his goods works nor merchandize except only the Master and Wardens of the said Guild Fraternity or Art of Clothworkers aforesaid and their successors for the time being together with the Mayor of the said City for the time being or his Deputy as is aforesaid As in the same Letters Patent is more fully contained And whereas by reason of the several Letters Patent above recited and of the diversity of the corporate names by the same erected ordained or mentioned and their uncertainty not only many doubts have arisen but also many strifes and controversies are likely hereafter to arise to the loss and injury of many of our subjects We desiring to provide a fit remedy in this behalf and entirely to remove all doubts and occasions of strife which may arise out of such causes and Willing that as well all the Men now exercising and who shall hereafter exercise the Arts and Mysteries in the said Letters Patent mentioned in our City of London and the Suburbs thereof or any of them as all the Men being now free of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers be reduced into one Commonalty and that out of all the Corporations and corporate names in the said Letters Patent contained and mentioned one Body Corporate and Politic be created and founded of one name only do at the humble petition of the said Men of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion and with a feeling of charity for us our heirs and successors ordain constitute declare and will That all Men and Persons whatsoever as well Natives as Aliens who now occupy or exercise or shall hereafter occupy or exercise the Art or Mystery of Shearmen Fullers and Clothworkers within our City of London or the Suburbs thereof or in any of them and also all Men now being free of the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers shall be and shall for ever hereafter remain One Commonalty only and not otherwise nor differently And

all Men being now free of the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers and all Men exercising and who shall hereafter exercise the Art or Mystery aforesaid or any of them within our City of London or the Suburbs thereof We do make ordain create and erect by these presents to be and remain the Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City and Suburbs aforesaid to endure for evermore And that the same Commonalty shall from henceforth for ever be called and named The Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City and Suburbs aforesaid And further of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion We do by these presents make ordain incorporate and create out of the same Men and Commonalty One Body Corporate and Politic in deed and in name And that the same Body Corporate shall be named and called by the name of The Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and the same Body Corporate we do call and name by the name of The Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and do by these presents will ordain and declare that it shall be so called and named held and had and not by any other name or names And that THOMAS BYARD now one of the Freemen of the Commonalty aforesaid shall from the day of the date of these our Letters Patent until the first Monday in the month of August next ensuing (if he shall so long live) be the first and modern Master of the Commonalty aforesaid And that JOHN LACYE THOMAS BLACKWAY JOHN BLOUNT and CLEMENT DEVICKE also Freemen of the Commonalty aforesaid shall for the time aforesaid (if they so long live) be the first and modern Wardens of the said Commonalty And that on the said first Monday of the month of August aforesaid the said THOMAS BYARD the then Master JOHN LACYE THOMAS BLACKWAY JOHN BLOUNT and CLEMENT DEVICKE the then Wardens and the Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid or the greater part of them amongst themselves may and shall be able to elect have and possess from the Commonalty aforesaid one Master and four Wardens of the same Commonalty and to continue for and during one whole year then next ensuing for the good and wholesome rule governance and custody of the said Commonalty And that the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being or the greater part of them shall and may be able then and from thenceforth for ever in every year and from year to year amongst themselves to elect have and possess from the Commonalty aforesaid one Master and four Wardens of the same Commonalty from time to time so often as and when they shall please or it shall seem necessary for the good and wholesome rule governance and keeping of the said Commonalty

And them or any of them so elected to remove and another or others to elect anew and appoint in his or their stead so often as and when it shall seem necessary or most expedient And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being have perpetual succession and a Common Seal to despatch and serve their business for ever And that they and their successors by the name of The Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid be a Body Corporate able and capable in Law to purchase have hold demise alienate assign and grant in fee and perpetuity and in any other manner whatsoever at their pleasure lands tenements rents annuities services hereditaments goods and chattels and other possessions whatsoever as well of us as of and to any other person or persons whomsoever willing to give bequeath demise grant alienate or assign the same to take and receive to them as well in the City of London aforesaid as elsewhere wheresoever out of the same City And that the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors by the name of The Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid may be able to plead and be impleaded before whatsoever Justices and Judges in whatsoever Courts and in all and singular Causes and Actions whatsoever as well Real as Personal Spiritual and Temporal and mixed of what condition or nature soever they may be and in Pleas of Assize of Novel Disseisin **We have also granted** and by these presents for us our heirs and successors of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion do grant to the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors That the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors from henceforth have hold and possess to them for ever all and singular lands and tenements rents reversions and services possessions liberties franchises privileges and hereditaments whatsoever And also all goods and chattels which formerly the Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Shearmen in the City of London or formerly the Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Art of Fullers of the City of London and the Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London And the Master and Wardens of Clothworkers and the one Master and four Wardens of the Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London and the Master and Wardens

and Commonalty of Clothworkers and the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of Clothworkers and the now Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid or their Predecessors or any or any one of them have jointly and severally or separately in any manner heretofore by the same names or any of them or by whatsoever other name or names and howsoever had held or possessed or purchased or at present have hold or possess or have purchased or which they have used or enjoyed or may hereafter have hold possess or purchase And this without the impeachment disturbance or molestation of us our heirs or successors or our Justices Sheriffs Escheators or other Officers whatsoever And we have granted and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the said THOMAS BYARD the now Master JOHN LACYE THOMAS BLACKWAY JOHN BLOUNT and CLEMENT DEVICK the now Wardens and to the Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors that they and their successors may have the said Perpetual Commonalty of themselves and may and shall be able to increase and augment the same And also may have full power and authority from time to time for ever to receive make and constitute into the said Commonalty whatsoever persons as well Natives as Aliens whom they shall be willing to receive into the same and may retain and have all and singular persons of the said Commonalty received or hereafter to be received into the same Commonalty lawfully and freely without the impeachment or disturbance of any person or persons of any other Art or Mystery of the City aforesaid and enjoy to the same And that the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors may and shall be able lawfully and freely to make honest and lawful Meetings Assemblies and Congregations of themselves and Statutes and Ordinances for the wholesome governance oversight search and correction of the Commonalty of the said Art or Mystery and of the Men of the same Commonalty according to the nature of their offences and the necessity of the case so often as and when it shall be needful or seem to them expedient without let or hindrance of us or our heirs or successors Justices Escheators Sheriffs Coroners or other Bailiffs or Ministers of us or our heirs or successors whatsoever So that such Statutes and Ordinances be in no wise contrary to the Laws and Customs of our Realm of England and the Laws and Liberties of our City of London aforesaid And that the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors shall and may be able every year or every

two years or otherwise at their pleasure to make and have one Livery or Livery of Clothing of one Suit among the Citizens of the said City the then Brethren and Sisters of the same Commonalty most sufficient thereunto and the same Clothing honourably to use and enjoy so often as and when it shall please them And also may and shall be able to hold and keep their Feast or Entertainment of Meat and Drink in a fit place on the Feast of Saint Peter *ad Vincula* or thereabouts so often as and when it shall so seem expedient to them **Moreover** We have granted and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant and will that the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors for the time being and from time to time hereafter for ever may have make and exercise within the City of London aforesaid the Liberties and Suburbs thereof or in any other place throughout the space of three miles distant from the City of London on all sides the full and entire oversight and search governance and correction of all and singular the Freemen of the said Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid Natives Foreigners Aliens and whatsoever other persons of what Art or Mystery soever they may be using the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid or the late Art or Mystery of Shearmen or the late Art or Mystery of Fullers or any Art or Mystery in any manner touching and concerning such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or to any of them howsoever belonging and appertaining in the City of London aforesaid the Liberties and Suburbs thereof or elsewhere within three Miles distant on all sides from the said City as aforesaid And of all and singular matters at any time touching such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or any or any one of them as well in the working of whatsoever Woollen Cloths and Fustians as of all Goods and things touching or concerning any of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or to any or any one of them at any time howsoever belonging or appertaining or relating although the said Cloth and Fustian shall have been worked or made within the said City the Liberties and Suburbs thereof or by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Aliens and shall have been brought from whatsoever parts of this our Realm of England or parts beyond the Seas or elsewhere by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Aliens to our said City or the Suburbs thereof or within three Miles distant on all sides from the said City And that they may have the correction and punishment of all and singular persons as well Freemen natives as Foreigners and Aliens for their offences to be done in this behalf in and for not perfectly working executing exercising and performing in the working of Woollen Cloths Fustians and other things whatsoever howsoever concerning and touching any of the said Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or

to the same or any or any one of them howsoever belonging and appertaining by them or any of them worked and made so often as and when it shall be needful and so seem to them expedient for the benefit and advantage of whatsoever our liege people and others whomsoever So that the correction and punishment of the same Freemen Natives Foreigners or Aliens so offending in the premises be executed by the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being according to the Laws of our Realm of England and the Statutes therefore made and the Custom of our City of London aforesaid And that no Native Foreigner nor Alien within our said City of London or the Suburbs thereof shall use the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid or any of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or any matters at any time concerning or touching in anywise any of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or to any or either of them in any manner belonging or appertaining unless he be first admitted and approved of by the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being as a fit competent and sufficient Workman and Artificer to exercise the working of the same and to use them **And further** we have willed and granted and by these our Letters Patent for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid now Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors that no Officer Minister Artificer or any other person whosoever shall from henceforth search or in any manner presume to search any our liegeman privileged in the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid or practising or exercising any of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid nor his goods or other things whatsoever in any wise appertaining or belonging to any workings of the said Arts or Mysteries or howsoever touching or concerning the same Arts or Mysteries or any or either of them except the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid So that it be not to the prejudice of the authority of the Mayor of our City of London for the time being And moreover we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the said now Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of our City of London and their successors that all and singular Freemen of the same Commonalty and Natives Foreigners and Aliens using the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid or any of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or any matters or the working of any matters touching or concerning in any wise any of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or to any or either of the said Arts or Mysteries in any manner

belonging and appertaining in the City of London or the Suburbs thereof shall contribute or yearly pay to the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London for the time being for the support and maintenance of the charges and affairs concerning or in any wise touching the same Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers Two Shillings at the four usual terms of the year in the City aforesaid by equal portions And moreover we do grant in manner and form as above that so often as and when any Freeman of the same Commonalty or Native Foreigner or Alien occupying the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid or any of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or using the same or any of them shall contrary to the form of our present Grant refuse or object to pay every quarter of the year the said sum in manner and form aforesaid that then and so often it shall be lawful for the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being to distrain the goods and chattels of him so refusing or objecting And the distresses so taken to take carry away and keep in their possession until the said sum and every parcel thereof shall be fully paid to them Albeit express mention be not made in these presents of the certainty of the premises or of any of them or of other gifts or grants or confirmations heretofore made by any of our progenitors or predecessors or by us to the said now Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid or their predecessors or to any of them or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in any wise notwithstanding And we ratifying and confirming the Gifts Grants Confirmations and Ordinances aforesaid and all and every thing in the Letters Patent or Charters aforesaid above recited contained and described unrevoked do for us our heirs and successors as much as in us is accept and approve the same and of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion do for us our heirs and successors ratify approve and confirm the same by these presents to our said well-beloved and faithful the aforesaid Thomas Byard the now Master John Lacye Thomas Blackway John Blount and Clement Devicke the now Wardens and to the Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors for ever We will also and by these presents do grant to the aforesaid Thomas Byard the now Master John Lacye Thomas Blackway John Blount and Clement Devicke the now Wardens and to the Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid that they may and shall have these our Letters Patent duly made and sealed under our Great Seal of England without fine or fee great or small to us in our Hanaper or else-

where to our use to be in any wise rendered paid or made **Now know ye** that we at the humble Petition of the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion do for us our heirs and successors approve and confirm the Charters and Letters Patent aforesaid to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and everything in the same contained do by these presents ratify and do will to be ratified for ever So that they may be able fully to use and enjoy the same without the hinderance of us our heirs or successors Justices Sheriffs or other our Ministers or Officers whomsoever as the said Charters do reasonably testify **And further know ye** that we of our more abundant special grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion do for us our heirs and successors grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors that it shall be lawful for them or their successors at one time or at divers times to acquire purchase and hold in fee or for term of life or years messuages lands tenements and rents which are not holden of us our heirs or successors or of others by knight's service or of us by the service of soccage in chief not exceeding the annual value of two hundred pounds And in like manner we do by these presents give licence and grant to tenants as well present as to come to alienate and grant in fee or for term of life or years to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty and their successors all manors messuages lands tenements and rents to the yearly value aforesaid which are not holden as is aforesaid And this without the impeachment of us our heirs or successors and without any Writ of *Ad quod damnum* or any Inquisition or Mandate to be thereupon had and sued out The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute or Ordinance notwithstanding **We will** also and by these presents we do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid that they may and shall have these our Letters Patent duly made and sealed under our Great Seal of England without fine or fee great or small to us in our Hanaper or elsewhere to our use to be in any wise rendered paid or made **Albeit** express mention of the true annual value or of the certainty of the premises or of any one of them or of other gifts or grants heretofore made by us or by any of our progenitors or predecessors to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid be not made in these presents or any Statute Act Ordinance Provision Proclamation or Restriction

to the contrary thereof heretofore had made published ordained or provided or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent Witness myself at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of April in the ninth year of our Reign.

WOLSELEY.

By Writ of Privy Seal.

The Fine is taxed at Ten Pounds.

THO: COVENTRYE, *Chancellor.*

Endorsed:

"A perpetuity graunte unto the M^r^ Wardens & Cõialty of the Mistery of Clothworkers of London.

WOLSELEY."

The Great Seal of England attached.

VII.

The Charter

GRANTED TO

THE COMPANY OF CLOTHWORKERS

BY

KING CHARLES THE SECOND.

5th February, 37 *Charles II.*, *A.D.* 1684–5.

Charles the Second by the grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c To all to whom these present Letters shall come Greeting Whereas the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London have surrendered to us all their powers franchises liberties privileges and authorities of or concerning the Election Nomination Constitution being and appointing of any person or persons in and to the several offices of Master Wardens Assistants and Clerks of the said Corporation (which said Surrender we have accepted and by these presents we do accept) Know ye that we at the humble petition of the late Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery aforesaid and for the better governing of the Society aforesaid Of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion for us our heirs and successors ordain constitute declare and will that all the Men and persons whatsoever as well Natives as Aliens who now occupy or exercise or who hereafter shall occupy or exercise the Art or Mystery of Shearmen Fullers and Clothworkers within our City of London or the Suburbs thereof or of any of them and also all the Men now being Free of the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers shall be and for ever hereafter shall remain one Commonalty only and not otherwise nor differently And all the Men being now Free of the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers and all the Men exercising and who for ever hereafter shall exercise the Art or Mystery afore-

said or any of them within our said City of London or the Suburbs of the same we make ordain create and erect by these presents to be and remain the Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City and Suburbs aforesaid to endure for evermore And that the same Commonalty for ever hereafter shall be called and named the Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City and Suburbs aforesaid **And furthermore** of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion out of the same Men and Commonalty one Body corporate and politic in matter deed and name we do by these presents make ordain incorporate and create And that the same Body corporate shall be named and called by the name of The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London And the same Body corporate by the name of The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London we do call and name and so to be called and named held and accounted we do will ordain and declare by these presents and not by another name or other names And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being may have perpetual succession and a Common Seal to despatch and discharge and to serve for their business for ever And that they and their successors by the name of The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid be a Body corporate able and capable in Law to purchase have hold admit alienate assign and grant in fee and perpetuity and in any other manner whatsoever at their will lands tenements rents annuities services hereditaments goods and chattels and other possessions whatsoever as well of us as of any other person or persons whomsoever and to whatsoever persons willing to give bequeath demise grant alienate or assign the same to take or receive to them as well within the City of London aforesaid as elsewhere wheresoever without the same City And that the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors by the name of The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid may be able to plead and be impleaded before whatsoever Justices and Judges in whatsoever Courts and in all and singular Causes and Actions as well real as personal spiritual and temporal and mixed whatsoever of what condition or nature soever they shall be and in pleas of assize of novel disseisin **And further** we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the said Mystery of Clothworkers and to their successors That from

henceforth for ever and at all times hereafter yearly there may and shall be Five of the Society of the Mystery aforesaid in manner in these presents mentioned to be chosen and named of whom one shall be and shall be called the Master of the Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid and the other four shall be and shall be called the Wardens of the Commonalty of the Mystery aforesaid And also that likewise there may and shall be thirty-four or more of the Society aforesaid in form hereafter mentioned to be constituted and appointed who shall be and shall be called Assistants of the Society of the aforesaid Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and from time to time shall be assistant and aiding to the same Master and Wardens for the time being in whatsoever causes matters business and things touching or concerning the said Master and Wardens and Society and Mystery aforesaid And for the better executing of our will and grant in this behalf We have assigned named created constituted and made and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do assign name create constitute and make our beloved Edmund Wiseman Knight a Freeman of the Art or Mystery aforesaid to be and hereafter to be the first and modern Master of the Commonalty and Mystery aforesaid and William Bearblock Richard King Richard Gwinn and James Herriott to be and hereafter to be the four first and modern Wardens of the Society and Art or Mystery aforesaid to continue in their said offices respectively from the date of these presents until the first Monday in the month of August next following and from thence until one other Master and four other Wardens to the offices aforesaid in due manner shall be elected appointed and sworn according to the Ordinances and Provisoes hereafter in these presents expressed and declared if the same Edmund Wiseman William Bearblock Richard King Richard Gwinn and James Herriott respectively so long shall live And we have assigned named constituted created and made and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do assign name constitute and make our beloved Thomas Beckford Joseph Williamson Knights Benjamin Ayloff Baronet Robert Knightlie Knight Edward Waldoe Knight Samuel Pepys Edward Trussell Thomas Browne Frank Dorrington William Edwards Paul Wickes William Bridgeman William Hewer Esquires James Young Ralph Knowles Edward Gawdren John Ince Samuel Lamott John Legg Bryan Bentham Thomas Mason John Smith Roger Gray William Greening Robert Stevenson Abraham Wessell George Compere William Packer John Midgeley Nathan Dodson John Webb Joel Andrews Stephen Pitts and Robert Brough Citizens and Freemen of the Art and Mystery aforesaid to be and hereafter to be the first and modern Assistants of the same Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London to continue in the same offices during their natural lives unless in the meantime for ill-governing or ill-behaving themselves

in that behalf or for some other reasonable cause they shall be removed or any or any one of them shall be removed And furthermore we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant unto the aforesaid Master and Wardens and Commonalty aforesaid and their successors that they and their successors for ever hereafter may and shall have One upright and discreet man to be and hereafter to be the Clerk of the Commonalty aforesaid And for the better executing of our will in this behalf we have assigned named constituted and made and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do assign name constitute and make our beloved EDWARD GOURNEY to be and hereafter to be Clerk of the Commonalty aforesaid to execute the office aforesaid by himself or by his sufficient Deputy And furthermore we will and by these presents We command and ordain that the Master and Wardens in these presents heretofore named and constituted before they shall be admitted or any of them respectively shall be admitted to the executing of their offices respectively shall take and every of them shall take the several Oaths commonly called *The Oathes of Allegiance and Supremacie* and the Oath prescribed and mentioned in an Act of Parliament for the good government and regulating of Corporations made in the Thirteenth year of our Reign together with the several Oaths of the Master and Wardens of the Commonalty aforesaid for the due executing of their offices respectively and also shall subscribe and each of them shall subscribe the Declaration prescribed and mentioned in the Act aforesaid before the said THOMAS BECKFORD Knight BENJAMIN AYLOFFE Baronet EDWARD TRUSSELL PAUL WEEKES and JOHN MIDGELY or any two or more of them Which said THOMAS BECKFORD Knight BENJAMIN AYLOFFE Baronet EDWARD TRUSSELL PAUL WEEKES and JOHN MIDGELY or any two of them We by these Letters Patent do direct and require and to them power and authority do give and grant in a Court of Assistants of the same Commonalty to give administer and require the several Oaths and Subscriptions aforesaid And also we will and firmly enjoining command that the several Assistants and Clerks in these presents nominated and constituted before they be respectively admitted or any of them be admitted to the execution of their offices shall take and every of them shall take both the aforesaid Oath of Allegiance and Supremacy and the Oath prescribed and mentioned in the Act aforesaid together with the several Oaths of the Assistants and Clerk of the Commonalty aforesaid respectively and shall subscribe and every of them shall subscribe the Declaration aforesaid before the aforesaid EDMUND WISEMAN Knight WILLIAM BEARBLOCK RICHARD KING RICHARD GWYNN and JAMES HERRIOTT or any two or more of them Which said EDMUND WISEMAN Knight WILLIAM BEARBLOCK RICHARD KING RICHARD GWYNN and JAMES HERRIOTT or any two of them We by these Letters Patent do direct and require and to them power and

authority do give and grant in a Court of Assistants of the Commonalty aforesaid to give administer and require the several Oaths and Subscriptions aforesaid **Provided** always and we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors require and command that no person or persons at any time hereafter shall be severally and respectively elected named and appointed to the office or offices of the Master Wardens Assistants or Clerks of the Commonalty aforesaid or to any of them who before his or their respective election do or doth not hold and every of them shall hold communion with the Church of England and within six Months at least before such election have not and every of them hath not received the Sacrament according to the form of the Church of England by law established And that each and every person after such election and before his admission in or to the offices or places aforesaid shall take and every of them shall take the several Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy and the Oath prescribed and mentioned in the Act aforesaid together with the Oaths for the due executing of the offices of Master Wardens Assistants and Clerk respectively of the Commonalty aforesaid And also shall subscribe and every of them shall subscribe the Declaration aforesaid before the last Master and Wardens of the Commonalty aforesaid or any two of them for the time being Which said several oaths and subscriptions we by these our Letters Patent do direct and require and by these presents do give and grant to them or any two of them power and authority for us our heirs and successors in a Court of Assistants of the Commonalty aforesaid to require and administer the same And that immediately after the said several Oaths so made and the Declaration subscribed as is aforesaid they and every of them shall and may be able respectively and severally to execute and exercise the office and offices of Master Wardens Assistants and Clerk of the Commonalty aforesaid **We will** also and command that every Clerk of the Commonalty aforesaid hereafter to be named and chosen before his admission to such place or office shall be presented to us our heirs and Successors for our approbation and of our heirs and Successors And if we our heirs or Successors shall approve such Clerk under our or their Signet or Royal Sign Manual that then he taking the several Oaths aforesaid and also the Declaration and Subscription aforesaid as is aforesaid shall be thereunto admitted But if We our heirs or Successors shall refuse to approve such person so to be elected Clerk then such election shall be void and the Master Wardens and Assistants for the time being or the greater part of them in a Court of Assistants shall immediately proceed to the election of one other person to be Clerk who shall be presented for such approbation as is aforesaid and so until such person shall be elected who shall be approved by us our heirs or Successors as is aforesaid and shall take the several Oaths aforesaid and make the Subscription afore-

said Provided always and we further will and declare that every election of any Master Wardens Assistants or Clerk of the Commonalty aforesaid contrary to the directions and restrictions in these presents in that behalf mentioned shall be void and of none effect to all intents and purposes whatsoever Provided always and by these presents we will and declare that it shall and may be lawful for us our heirs and Successors from time to time and at all times hereafter by Order made in the Privy Council of us our heirs or Successors to remove and to declare to be removed any Master Warden Assistant or Clerk of the Commonalty aforesaid now or for the time being and thereupon the place or office of such person so declared removed or to be removed shall be absolutely void and another fit person in due manner shall be elected appointed and sworn in the place or places of the person or persons so declared removed or to be removed as is aforesaid according to the Ordinances and Provisions aforesaid Which said person or persons so to be chosen before admission into such place or office shall take and every of them shall take the several Oaths aforesaid and make the Subscription aforesaid and so as often as the case shall so happen And furthermore we will and command for us our heirs and Successors the Master and Wardens and Commonalty aforesaid that they and their Successors from time to time and at all times hereafter be and shall be subject in all things which belong to the good rule and governance of the City of London aforesaid and obedient to the Lord Mayor and the Court of Aldermen of the City of London for the time being Provided always and also we will that no person or persons of the Commonalty aforesaid for the time being who shall not hold communion with the Church of England or who shall frequent or be present at Conventicles or any unlawful Assembly under pretence of religious worship shall at any time hereafter be from henceforward chosen to or into the Livery of the Commonalty aforesaid hereafter to be granted to the same Commonalty by the Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the City of London aforesaid And also that every person elected or to be elected into the Livery of the Commonalty aforesaid before he be thereunto admitted shall be approved by the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the City of London and shall take the said Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy and the Oaths prescribed and mentioned in the said Act for the well-governing and regulating of Corporations and shall make the Subscription aforesaid before the Master and Wardens of the Commonalty aforesaid or any two or more of them in a Court of Assistants Which said Master and Wardens or any two or more of them for the time being we do by these presents for us our heirs and Successors order authorize and require to give and require the said Oaths and Subscriptions as is aforesaid Provided furthermore and for us our heirs and Successors we do declare that if any person

being an Assistant of the Society aforesaid at the time of the Surrender aforesaid and within the space of six months after the date of these presents shall not surrender his office or place of Assistant of the Commonalty aforesaid to the Master and Wardens and Commonalty aforesaid and their successors and submit himself to a new election at the good pleasure of the Society aforesaid that then every such person shall have or ought to have no power or privilege in or concerning the Election of any or any one of the officers or members of the Society aforesaid but from thenceforth shall be wholly discharged and excluded from the benefit of this our grant. **And furthermore** we will and by these presents for us our heirs and Successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art aforesaid and to their successors that whensoever and as often as it shall happen that any Master or Clerk or any one or any of the Wardens or Assistants of the Mystery or Art aforesaid for the time being die or be removed or depart from such Office or Offices or in case of any other vacancy of the Officers aforesaid that then and as often and in every such case other fit person or persons from time to time in due form shall be respectively elected sworn and appointed into those offices for such person in such place manner time and form as by the space of seven years now last past hath been used and accustomed And shall exercise the Office or Offices to which he or they shall be elected for such time and times and from thence shall be removed in such manner as hath been used and accustomed in such cases **We have also granted** and by these presents for us our heirs and Successors of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion do grant to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their Successors that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their Successors hereafter may have hold and possess to them for ever All and singular the lands and tenements rents reversions and services possessions liberties franchises privileges and hereditaments whatsoever and also all goods and chattels which the late Master and Wardens of the Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Shearmen in the City of London or heretofore the Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery or Art of Fullers of the City of London and the Master and Four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London and the Master and Wardens of Clothworkers and the One Master and Four Wardens of the Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London and the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Clothworkers and the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Mystery of Clothworkers of

the City of London and the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of Clothworkers and the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid their predecessors or any or any one of them jointly separately or severally in any manner heretofore by the same names or any of them or by what other name or names soever or howsoever they have had held or possessed or have purchased or now have hold or possess or have got or which they have used or enjoyed or hereafter may have hold possess or purchase and this without any impediment disturbance or molestation of us our heirs or Successors or the Justices Sheriffs Escheators or other our Officers whatsoever And we have granted to the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their Successors and by these presents for us our heirs and Successors do grant that they and their Successors may have the said perpetual Commonalty of themselves and may augment and increase the same And also may have full power and authority from time to time for ever to receive make and constitute into that Commonalty whatsoever person or persons as well Natives as Aliens whom they would receive into the same And all and singular the persons of the same Commonalty either received into the same Society or hereafter to be received into the same Commonalty may retain and have and lawfully and freely enjoy to the same without any impediment or molestation of any person or persons of any other Art or Mystery of the City aforesaid And that the same Master Wardens and Assistants of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being or the greater part of them (whereof the Master and Two Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid for the time being we will shall be three) may and shall be able to make lawful and honest meetings and assemblies and congregations of themselves and to make Statutes and Ordinances for the wholesome governance oversight search and correction of the Commonalty of that Art or Mystery and of the Men of the same Commonalty according to the quality of their defaults and the necessity of the case as often and when there shall be need or to them shall seem expedient lawfully and freely without let or hindrance of us our heirs or successors Justices Escheators Sheriffs Coroners or other the Bailiffs or Ministers of us our heirs or successors whomsoever So that those Statutes and Ordinances be not in any wise contrary to the Laws and Customs of our Kingdom of England and also the Laws and Liberties of our City of London aforesaid **Moreover** we have granted and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do will and grant that the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid

and their successors who for the time shall be from time to time for ever hereafter may have make and exercise within the City of London aforesaid the Liberties and Suburbs of the same or in any other place by the space of three miles on all sides distant from the said City the full and entire oversight governance and correction of all and singular the Freemen of the said Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid of Natives Foreigners Aliens whomsoever and of others whomsoever of whatsoever Art or Mystery they shall be in any wise touching or concerning the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid or the late Art or Mystery of Shearmen or the late Art or Mystery of Fullers or using any one Mystery of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or in any way soever appertaining or belonging to any of them in the City of London aforesaid the Liberties and the Suburbs of the same or elsewhere within three miles distant on all sides from the said City as is aforesaid And of all and singular the things at any time touching such aforesaid Arts or Mysteries or any or any one of them as well concerning the working of whatsoever Woollen Cloths and Fustians as of all goods and things touching or concerning any one Art or Mystery of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or in any way soever at any time appertaining or belonging to any of them or tending to any of the same Although the said Cloth and Fustian were made and wrought within the said City the Liberties and Suburbs of the same by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Aliens and were brought from whatsoever parts of this Kingdom of England or parts beyond the seas or elsewhere by any Freeman or Foreigner or Foreigners or Aliens to the same City of London or the Suburbs of the same or within three miles anywhere distant from the said City And that they may have the correction and punishment as well of all and singular of them as well of the Freemen Natives as of Foreigners and Aliens for their defaults in that behalf to be made in and for not perfectly working executing exercising and doing in the working of Woollen Cloths Fustians and of other things whatsoever in any wise concerning and touching any such like Art or Mystery of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or in any way soever appertaining and belonging to them or to any of them by them or any of them worked and made as often as and when need shall be and so to them it shall seem expedient for the advantage and profit of our liege people and others whomsoever So that the correction and punishment of the said Freemen Natives Foreigners or Aliens so offending in the premises be executed by the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being according to the laws of our Kingdom of England and the Statutes therefore published and the Customs of our City of London aforesaid And that no Native Foreigner or Alien within the said City of London or the Suburbs of the

same use the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid or any such like Art or Mystery of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or any things at any time in any way soever touching or concerning any such Art or Mystery of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or in any wise belonging and appertaining to any or any one of them unless he be first admitted and approved by the Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being as a fit competent and sufficient workman and artificer to exercise the workings of the same and to use the same **And further** we will and have granted and by these our Letters Patent for us our heirs and Successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors that no Officer Minister Artificer or any other person whatsoever from henceforth search or in any wise henceforth presume to search any our privileged liegeman of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid practising and exercising any the like Art or Mystery of the Arts or Mysteries aforesaid nor his goods or other things whatsoever in any way soever appertaining or belonging to the workings of the said Arts or Mysteries or any one of them or in any way soever touching or concerning the same Arts or Mysteries or any of them except the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid So that it be not to the prejudice of the authority of the Mayor of our City of London for the time being **And moreover** we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the said Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of our City of London and their successors that all and singular the Freemen of the same Commonalty and Natives Foreigners and Aliens using the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid or any one Art or Mystery of such Arts and Mysteries aforesaid or any thing in any way soever touching or concerning the working of any things or of any Art or Mystery of such Arts or Mysteries aforesaid or in any manner belonging or appertaining to any or any one of the same Arts or Mysteries aforesaid [in] the City of London or the Suburbs of the same that they contribute or annually pay to the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of London aforesaid for the time being towards the support and maintenance of the charges and business concerning or any wise touching the same Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers Two Shillings at the four terms of the year usual within the City of London aforesaid by equal portions And moreover we grant in manner and form as above that as often and when any Freeman of the same Commonalty or Native Foreigner or Alien occupying the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid or any the like Art or Mystery of the Arts or

Mysteries aforesaid or using the same or any of them contrary to the form of this our present grant shall deny or refuse to pay every Quarter of a year the said sum in manner and form aforesaid that then and so often it shall be well lawful to the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid for the time being to distrain the Goods and Chattels of him so denying and refusing and the same distresses so taken to lead carry away and keep until the said sum and every parcel thereof shall be to them fully paid **And further** Know ye that we of our more abundant special grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors that it may be lawful to them or their successors at one time or at several times to obtain purchase and hold in fee or for term of life or years messuages lands tenements and rents of us our heirs and successors or of others And in like manner we do by these presents give licence and grant to tenants as well present as to come to alienate and grant in fee or for term of life or years to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty and their successors all manors messuages lands tenements and rents And this without any impeachment of us our heirs or successors and without any writ of *Ad quod Damnum* or any Inquisition or Mandate thereupon to be had and sued out The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute or Ordinance notwithstanding Albeit express mention of the true annual value or certainty of the premises or of any one of them or of other gifts or grants by us or our progenitors heretofore made be not made in these presents or any Statute Act Ordinance or any other thing or matter whatsoever in any wise notwithstanding **In witness wherof** we have caused these our Letters to be made patent **Witness** myself at Westminster the fifth day of February in the thirty-seventh year of our reign.

PIGOTT.

By Writ of Privy Seal.

For a Fine in the Hanaper—vj *li.* xiij *s.* iiij *d.*

GUILFORD, *C.*

The Great Seal attached.

VIII.

The Charter

GRANTED TO

THE COMPANIES OF THE CITY OF LONDON

BY

KING JAMES THE SECOND.

19*th November*, 3 *James II.*, *A.D.* 1687.

ames the Second by the grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c To all to whom these presents shall come Greeting Whereas in the several Charters granted by us or our dearest brother Charles the Second late King of England to the several Companies Mysteries and Fraternities of our City of London or to the said City belonging It is provided that our said Brother or We his or our heirs or successors respectively might by Order in Privy Council remove any Master or Masters Warden or Wardens Assistant or Assistants of the said several Companies Mysteries and Fraternities And Whereas We by Order lately made in our Privy Council did lately remove and discharge certain Masters Wardens and Assistants of most of the Companies Mysteries and Fraternities aforesaid And thereupon by our Letters under our Royal Sign Manual and our Signet We have restored and given directions for the restoring of other persons who formerly were Masters Wardens or Assistants in the several Companies Mysteries and Fraternities aforesaid and were removed from those places Yet Nevertheless it so falls out That in some of the said Companies Mysteries and Fraternities for want of a Master Wardens or sufficient number of Assistants The said Companies Mysteries or Fraternities cannot (as We are given to understand) have Courts of Assistants for dispatch of their necessary affairs and business or else the Master Wardens or Assistants newly chosen or to be chosen or so as

aforesaid restored or to be restored cannot well take the Oaths for performance of their Offices respectively and be thereto admitted according to their Charters or the Ordinances and Laws of the said Companies Mysteries and Fraternities **Therefore** to supply the said defects and all others of like nature in the Companies Mysteries and Fraternities aforesaid And for the better and more easy proceeding and prosecution of the affairs and business of the said Companies Mysteries and Fraternities **Know Ye** that of our special grace certain knowledge and mere motion We have granted ordained constituted and established And by these presents for Us our heirs and Successors We do grant ordain constitute and establish until by Us our heirs or successors it shall be otherwise ordered and provided That in all and every the Companies Mysteries and Fraternities of the City aforesaid wherein by the said removal lately made or hereafter to be made of any Master Warden or Assistant Masters Wardens or Assistants or any of them The said Companies Mysteries and Fraternities respectively for want of a Master Wardens or Assistants or any of them or a sufficient number of them or any of them cannot well and properly have or keep Courts of Assistants according to the prescription or direction of their Charters respectively or according to the respective Ordinances or Customs of the said Companies Mysteries or Fraternities heretofore commonly used or the new Masters Wardens or Assistants chosen or to be chosen or any others in manner aforesaid restored or to be restored or any of them cannot take the Oaths of their Offices respectively and to be admitted thereunto according to the form and effect of the Charters or Ordinances or Customs of the said Companies Mysteries or Fraternities respectively or in which Companies Mysteries or Fraternities by the removal as aforesaid now or hereafter of any Master Warden or Assistants or any of them Anything necessary requisite or expedient now is or hereafter shall be wanting for touching or concerning the election or admission of any new Master Wardens or Assistants chosen or to be chosen restored or to be restored in the place or places of any Master Wardens or Assistants so as aforesaid removed or to be removed or for administering the Oaths of Office to any such new Master Wardens or Assistants or in touching or concerning any other matters or affairs of the said Companies Mysteries or Fraternities respectively to be done or dispatched in all the aforesaid cases and in all other such and the like cases in touching or concerning any of the said Companies Mysteries or Fraternities The Master Wardens and Assistants of the said Companies Mysteries and Fraternities respectively now or hereafter remaining and not removed from the said Offices or the greater part of them (although no Master or Wardens or a sufficient number of the Master Wardens or Assistants according to the form and effect of the aforesaid Charters Ordinances or

Customs should not be remaining) from time to time as often as the case shall require shall and may elect nominate restore and make other Master Wardens or Assistants in the place or places of the Master Wardens or Assistants so removed or to be removed or anywise void or to be void And the said Master Wardens and Assistants of the several Companies aforesaid now or hereafter remaining and not removed or any two or more of them shall and may administer to the said other Master Wardens or Assistants to be newly chosen restored or made or now chosen or restored the several Oaths accustomed and prescribed for the good and faithful execution of the said Offices respectively To which said Master Wardens and Assistants of the several and respective Companies and Fraternities aforesaid so as aforesaid not removed or any two or more of them in every Company for us our heirs and successors We give and grant full power by these presents to administer the said Oaths of Office to the Master Wardens and Assistants of their Companies Mysteries and Fraternities respectively so as aforesaid chosen or to be chosen or restored or to be restored as the case shall require And we further will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors we grant ordain constitute and establish that every person and persons so as aforesaid chosen or to be chosen appointed or to be appointed to the Offices of Master Warden or Assistant of the Companies aforesaid respectively or any of them And all other persons restored or to be restored to the said Offices or any of them or to the Livery in any Company Mystery or Fraternity of the City aforesaid by command from us lately given to the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City shall take upon them perform and execute in all things the said Offices respectively in as large manner and form as any Master Warden or Assistant or Liveryman respectively of the said Companies performed and executed the same in times past And that all and every person and persons so as aforesaid restored chosen or appointed or to be restored chosen or appointed shall to all intents and purposes be good and lawful Master and Masters Warden and Wardens Assistant and Assistants or Liverymen respectively of the said Companies wherein they have been or shall be so as aforesaid restored or chosen to the said Offices respectively And further that neither the Oath of Supremacy or Allegiance nor any subscription or making of any Declaration mentioned or expressed in any Act of Parliament or Statute nor any other Oath except only the oath for the good and faithful execution of the Offices of Master Warden Assistant or Liveryman respectively nor any receiving the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper or any thing else whatsoever shall hereafter be required demanded or exacted from any person or persons chosen or to be chosen appointed or to be appointed restored or to be restored into the

Offices of Master Warden Assistant or Liveryman respectively of any of the Companies Mysteries or Fraternities of the City aforesaid But that all and every person and persons now chosen or hereafter to be chosen appointed or to be appointed restored or to be restored to the Offices of Master Wardens Assistant or Liveryman of the Companies of the City aforesaid or any of them upon taking only the Oath for the execution of their Offices respectively may be hereafter admitted into the said Offices respectively and take upon them perform and execute the same in all things without taking any other Oath or other thing to be exacted or required or any other capacity qualification or any thing whatsoever to be necessary or requisite thereunto **And we further** will and constitute and by these presents for Us our heirs and successors We grant to the Mayor and Aldermen of the City aforesaid for the time being or any thirteen of them full power and authority That in case any Master Wardens or Assistants now being of any of the Companies Mysteries or Fraternities of the City aforesaid shall fail or refuse to choose restore admit or swear any person or persons to be chosen restored admitted or sworn as the case shall require into the Office of Master Warden or Assistant of the said Companies respectively or to do and pursue things which they ought or are required by these our Letters Patent or if any person or persons newly chosen or to be chosen as aforesaid or restored or to be restored into the Office of Master Warden or Assistant of any of the Companies aforesaid shall refuse to take his Oath before the Master Wardens or Assistants that now are or hereafter shall be of the said Companies or any two or more of them That in every such case the said Mayor and Aldermen for the time being or any thirteen of them shall and may choose restore or admit the Master Wardens or Assistants as the case shall require of such Companies as aforesaid and admi[n]ister to them respectively the Oaths and do and perform all things concerning the election restitution or admission of any person or persons into the Offices of Master Wardens or Assistant of any of the Companies aforesaid which the Master Wardens or Assistants of the said Companies now being or any of them by virtue of these Letters Patent or according to our Command lately given and signified to the Mayor and Aldermen for restoring of several Masters Wardens and Assistants of the Companies of the City of London as aforesaid or otherwise ought or might do and perform **Notwithstanding** the Charters heretofore granted to the said Companies or any of them by Us or our progenitors or any thing contained in them or any of them or any Ordinances Laws or Customs of the said Companies or the Statute made in the Parliament of Queen Elizabeth in the first year of her Reign or the Statutes made in Parliament holden in the third year

of our grandfather James the First or in the seventh year of his Reign Or the Statutes made in Parliament of our dearest brother Charles the Second in the thirteenth and five and twentieth years of his reign or any of them Or any other Statute Ordinance Law Provision or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding In witness whereof We have caused these our Letters to be made Patent Witness Our self at Westminster the nineteenth day of November in the third year of our reign.

WAGSTAFFE.

IX.

A Grant

TO THE

MASTER WARDENS AND ASSISTANTS OF THE COMPANY OF CLOTHWORKERS

BY

KING JAMES THE SECOND.

19*th January*, 3 *James II.*, *A.D.* 1687–8.

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ames the Second by the grace of God King of England Scotland France and Ireland Defender of the Faith etc To all to whom these presents shall come Greeting Whereas our late dearest Brother King Charles the Second of Blessed Memory by his Royal Charter under the Great Seal of England bearing date the fifth day of February in the seven and thirtieth year of his reign made and granted to the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London did (amongst other things therein contained) Will and grant for himself his heirs and successors that from thenceforth for ever yearly Five of the Society or Mystery aforesaid should be chosen and named whereof one should be and be called the Master of the Commonalty of the said Mystery and the other Four should be and be called the Wardens of the Commonalty of the said Mystery And also that there should be thirty-four or more of the said Society in and by the said Letters Patent to be constituted and appointed who should be and be called Assistants of the Society of the Mystery aforesaid And that the said Master Wardens and Assistants of the said Art or Mystery for the time being or the Major part of them whereof the Master and two of the Wardens for the time being to be three might assemble themselves and make Laws and Ordinances for the good Government of the said Art or Mystery and Men of the same as in and by the said Letters Patent relation being thereunto had may more at large appear And Whereas

we are informed that it hath been found very difficult to procure an Assembly of so great a number of the said Assistants as by the directions of the said Charter is requisite to make a Court of Assistants of the said Art or Mystery whereby the ordinary Business and Affairs of the said Company hath been greatly prejudiced and obstructed **Know ye** therefore that We for the better regulation and government of the said Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of our especial grace certain knowledge and mere motion **Have** willed ordained declared constituted and appointed and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do will ordain declare constitute and appoint That from henceforth and at all times for ever hereafter the Master of the said Society of Clothworkers for the time being and also the Wardens of the said Society for the time being or any two of them and likewise the Assistants of the said Society for the time being or any number of them consisting of Twelve at the least may make lawful and honest Societies Meetings and Assemblies of themselves and make Laws and Ordinances for the good Government Overseeing Search and Correction of the Commonalty of the said Art or Mystery and Men of the same Commonalty according to the quality of their defaults as heretofore by the ancient By-laws and usages of the said Society hath been accustomed so as such Laws and Ordinances be not in any wise against the Laws and Customs of our Kingdom of England or the Laws and Liberties of the said City of London Anything to the contrary contained in the said recited Charter or Letters Patent or any other matter cause or thing whatsoever to the contrary notwithstanding **In witness** whereof We have caused these our Letters to be made Patent **Witness** ourself at Westminster the nineteenth day of January in the third year of our reign.

PIGOTT.

By the King.

Endorsed:

"A Grant to the Master Wardens and Assistants of the Society of Clothworkers.

PIGOTT."

The Great Seal attached.

X.

Charter of Restitution

GRANTED TO

THE COMPANIES OF THE CITY OF LONDON

BY

KING JAMES THE SECOND.

23rd October, 4 James II., A.D. 1688.

Of a Grant of Restitution to the Several Companies of the City of London.[1]

The King &c To all to whom &c Greeting Whereas the several Deeds of Surrender by the several Companies Commonalties Mysteries Guilds and Fraternities in and of our City of London hereafter mentioned to Us and our dearly-beloved brother Charles the Second lately made (that is to say) by The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Mercers of the City of London by The Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Grocers of the City of London The Master and Wardens and Brethren and Sisters of the Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Mystery of Drapers of the City of London The Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Fishmongers of the City of London The Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Goldsmiths of the City of London TheMaster and Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Body of Christ of the Skinners of London The Master and Wardens of the Merchant Tailors of the Fraternity of S^{t} John the Baptist in the City of London The Master and Four Wardens of the Fraternity Art or Mystery of Haberdashers in the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Salters of London The Master and Keepers or Wardens of the Company of Freemen of the Mystery or Art of Ironmongers of the City of London The Master Wardens and Freemen and Commonalty of the Mystery of Vintners of

[1] From the Patent Roll, 4 James II., Part 11, No. 12.

the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London The Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Dyers of the City of London The Master Keepers or Wardens and the Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of Brewers of the City of London The Wardens and Company of the Mystery or Art of Leathersellers of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Pewterers of the City of London The Masters or Governors of the Mystery and Commonalty of Barber-Surgeons of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Cutlers of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Bakers of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Wax-chandlers of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commmonalty of the Company of Tallow-chandlers of the City of London The Master Wardens and Brethren and Sisters of the Fraternity or Guild of S^{t} George of the Men of the Mystery of Armourers of the City of London The Master and Wardens or Keepers of the Art or Mystery of Girdlers of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Butchers of the City of London The Wardens or Keepers and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of Saddlers of the City of London The Master Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery or Art of Carpenters of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Cordwainers of the City of London The Master Wardens and Company of the Art and Mystery of Apothecaries of the City of London The Master Wardens Assistants and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Painter-stainers of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of the Curriers of the City of London The Master Wardens Assistants and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Masons of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery of Plumbers of the City of London The Master Wardens and Company of the Art or Mystery of Innholders of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of the Founders of the City of London The Master Wardens and Assistants of the Poulterers of London The Master and Governors and Commonalty of the Mystery of Cooks of London The Master and Wardens or Keepers of the Commonalty of Freemen of the Mystery of the Coopers of the City of London The Master and Keepers or Wardens of the Company of Freemen of the Art or Mystery of the Tilers and Bricklayers of the City of London The Keepers or Wardens and Company of the Art or Mystery of the Blacksmiths of London The Master Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of Joiners and Ceilers of the City of London The Bailiffs Wardens Assistants and Commonalty of the Art and

Mystery of Weavers of London The Master Wardens and Assistants of the Company of Scriveners of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery of the Fruiterers of London The Master and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of Stationers of the City of London The Master Wardens and Company of the Art or Mystery of the Broderers otherwise Imbroderers of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of the Upholders of the City of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Mystery or Art of the Turners of London The Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Glaziers of the City of London The Master Wardens Assistants and Commonalty of the Art and Mystery of the Distillers of London The Master Wardens and Company of the Mystery of Armourers[1] of the City of London and The Master Wardens Assistants and Commonalty of the Company of the Coach and Coach-harness Makers of London Of all their powers franchises liberties privileges and authorities of or concerning the election constitution being or appointment of any persons in or to the several offices of Master Keepers Wardens Assistants and Clerks of the said several and respective Mysteries and Companies were or are not enrolled or recorded in any Court of us or of our said late brother Nevertheless we or our said brother did lately give and grant to the aforesaid several Companies Commonalties Mysteries Guilds and Fraternities or to some of them by their several names divers Charters and Letters Patent of Incorporation under our Great Seal of England In which or by which Letters Patent or some of them it is provided That We or our said brother his or our heirs and successors by an Order in the Privy Council might remove any Master Keepers Wardens Assistants and Clerks of the said Mysteries And it is provided in the same or in some of them That the Master Wardens Assistants or Clerks or any of them should be presented to us or to our said brother his or our heirs and successors for our or their approval As by the said several Charters or Letters Patent more fully appears And whereas We by our Letters Patent lately made in this behalf did restore and grant to the Citizens of our City of London all the franchises and privileges which they had or claimed before the time of the Judgment given upon the *Quo Warranto* against the same in the thirty-fifth year of our brother Charles the Second aforesaid Therefore that our Royal intent declared in the same Letters Patent may the better attain its due end and that the Citizens of the said City may be restored to the franchises and liberties hitherto had and accustomed to be enjoyed in their respective Mysteries and Companies And whereas on account

[1] *Armarii;* but this seems to be a mistake, as the *Armourers* are mentioned on the preceding page.

of the default of the Enrolment or Recording of the aforesaid several Deeds of Surrender (which from henceforth we will not to be enrolled or recorded) the aforesaid several powers franchises liberties privileges and authorities were or are not mentioned to be surrendered in the same Deeds of Surrender And whereas our good pleasure and Royal intention is That the several Companies Commonalties Mysteries Guilds and Fraternities above mentioned by whatsoever name or by whatsoever names of Incorporation the same or any of them be known or called be restored to all and singular the powers franchises liberties privileges authorities and other things whatsoever and enjoy and use the same in as ample manner and form as they enjoyed or used the same at any time or times at or before the making of the said Deeds of Surrender or of the aforesaid Charters or Letters Patent Know ye therefore That we having full faith in the fidelity and good behaviour of the same Citizens and also for the good and stability of the said several Companies and Mysteries of the City of London aforesaid Of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion we have granted restored remitted and released and by these presents for us our heirs and successors we do grant restore remit and release to the aforesaid several Companies Commonalties Mysteries Guilds and Fraternities above mentioned and to every of them by whatsoever names of Incorporation the same and every of them be designated or called or heretofore have been called And also to the several and respective Masters Keepers Wardens Assistants and other Members of the same several Commonalties Mysteries and Fraternities above mentioned and to every of them respectively All and singular the powers franchises liberties privileges authorities and other things whatsoever in or by the same Deeds of Surrender or by any of them surrendered or mentioned to be surrendered to us or to our said brother And also all powers and authorities granted in and by the aforesaid Charters and Letters Patent to the said several Companies Commonalties Mysteries and Fraternities or to any of them which were reserved to us or our brother aforesaid his or our heirs and successors or were provided or are for of or concerning the removal presentation or approval (as is aforesaid) of any Masters Keepers Wardens Assistants or Clerks of any or any one of the Companies Mysteries and Fraternities aforesaid Granting willing and commanding by these presents That all and singular the before-rehearsed Mysteries Fraternities and Companies of the City of London aforesaid and every one soever of them and all the Masters Keepers Wardens Assistants Clerks and members of them henceforth have hold and enjoy All and singular the rights privileges authorities liberties precedences and franchises which they lawfully had and enjoyed and any of them had or enjoyed at the time or

times of the making of the several Deeds of Surrender aforesaid or at or before the time of the making of the Letters Patent and Charters aforesaid to the said several Companies Commonalties Mysteries and Fraternities respectively (as is aforesaid) granted And by these presents for us our heirs and successors We do grant and restore to all and singular who were Masters Keepers Wardens or Assistants of any of the Companies Mysteries Guilds and Fraternities aforesaid at the time or times of the making of the respective Deeds of Surrender aforesaid or the making of the Charters or Letters Patent aforesaid the same respective places and offices of Masters Keepers Wardens and Assistants which they then severally and respectively had or held or any one of them had or held And that they undertake and every of them undertake severally and respectively the same places and offices and have and hold the same in such and as ample manner and form as they had or held them at or before the time or times of the making of the several Deeds of Surrender aforesaid or at the making of the Charters or Letters Patent aforesaid And in case of vacancy of any of the same places or offices by death or otherwise Then we will that the same Companies Commonalties Mysteries Guilds and Fraternities should elect others in the same places or offices so vacant (although the usual days and times of Election by the Charters or Constitutions of the same Companies have elapsed or be past) And to do execute and perform all and singular the things whatsoever which they could or ought lawfully to do if no such Deeds of Surrender or Charters or Letters Patent above mentioned had ever been made And for the better performance of our Royal meaning in this behalf by our Order made in our Privy Council we have discharged and removed and we do by these presents discharge and remove all and singular person and persons of and from all the offices and places of Masters Keepers Wardens and Assistants of the several Mysteries and Companies aforesaid who have or claim them or any of them solely by the Charters Letters Patent or Grants by our said most dearly-beloved brother or by us after the thirty-fourth year of his reign And we will and command that all such persons so removed should deliver into the hands and custody of the persons appointed by these presents and designated to execute the same offices and places All the Charters Records Books Evidences and things whatsoever touching the said respective Companies Commonalties Mysteries Guilds and Fraternities And further for us our heirs and successors we do will and grant and do enjoin and command our Attorney-General and all others in whose hands or custody the aforesaid Deeds of Surrender or any or any one of them now are or is or hereafter shall come That they and every of them cancel the aforesaid Deeds of Surrender and deliver and cause and every of them shall cause the same to be delivered to the aforesaid

several Companies Commonalties Mysteries Guilds and Fraternities which they concern And that in future in making the Elections of Masters Keepers Wardens Assistants and Clerks they be respectively elected set over and admitted and may and shall be elected set over and admitted in such manner and form as the Masters Keepers Wardens Assistants and Clerks were accustomed to be elected and admitted at or before the time of the making of the Letters Patent aforesaid or of the aforesaid Deeds of Surrender respectively (as is aforesaid) made Without other qualification act or thing whatsoever to be required or done in or by the persons elected to the same places of Masters Keepers Wardens Assistants or Clerks or any of them than was required and accustomed or ought to be done in or by the persons elected to the same offices or any of them in the said Mysteries Guilds and Fraternities respectively before the making of the aforesaid Letters Patent or of the Deeds of Surrender aforesaid In witness whereof &c. Witness the King at Westminster the twenty-third day of October.

By the King himself.

Part II.

Grants of Lands, &c.

I.

A Grant

OF THE

RENTS AND ANNUAL PAYMENTS FOR SUPERSTITIOUS USES

TO TRUSTEES FOR

THE CITY COMPANIES

BY

KING EDWARD THE SIXTH.[1]

4th July, 4 Edward VI., A.D. 1550.

For Augustine Hynde and others.—Of a Grant to them and heirs.

The King to all to whom &c Greeting

Know ye that we for the sum of Eighteen Thousand Seven Hundred and Fourty Four Pounds Eleven Shillings and Two Pence of lawful money of England paid to the hands of the Treasurer of our Court of Augmentations and Revenues of our Crown to our use by our beloved Augustine Hynde and Richard Turke Citizens and Aldermen of the City of London and William Blackwell Gentleman Common Clerk of the same City whereof we acknowledge ourselves to be fully satisfied and paid And the same Augustine Richard and William their heirs executors and administrators to be thereof acquitted and discharged by these presents Of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion and also of the advice of our Council We have given and granted and do by these presents give and grant to the aforesaid Augustine Hynde Richard Turke and William Blackwell All that * * * * *

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And all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Twelve Pence *per annum* issuing

[1] From the Patent Roll, 4 Edward VI., Part 7.

out of messuages lands and tenements of the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London situate and being in a lane called *Secole-Lane* otherwise *Flete-Lane* in the Parish of S^{t} Sepulchre without Newgate London Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay to us and our ancestors And all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Nine Pounds Six Shillings and Eight Pence *per annum* issuing out of the same messuages lands and tenements in *Secole-Lane* aforesaid Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay for the perpetual support of a Priest to celebrate in the Church of Chilham in our County of Kent for the soul of Robert Peale And all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Thirty Shillings *per annum* issuing out of messuages lands and tenements of the same Master Wardens and Commonalty situate and being in a lane called *Haywharf Lane* in the Parish of All Saints London commonly called *Allhallows the More* Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay for the Anniversary of John Fynche in the Church of the late College of Whittington in the City of London And all that our rent or annuity or annual sum of Four Pounds *per annum* issuing out of messuages lands and tenements of the same Master Wardens and Commonalty situate and being in a street called *The Stilyard* within the Parish of All Saints commonly called *Allhallows the More* in London Which said annual sum rent and annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay to the late dissolved House of the Augustine Friars of London according to the ordinance of William Gardyner and [which] they now annually render and ought to render and pay to us And all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Ten Shillings and Six Pence issuing out of the same messuages lands and tenements in the said street called *The Stilyard* Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay for the Anniversary of William Gardyner in the Church of All Saints commonly called *Allhallows the More* in London And all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Six Pence *per annum* issuing out of messuages lands and tenements of the same Master Wardens and Commonalty situate and being in East Greenwich and Charlton in the County of Kent Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty heretofore paid to us and our ancestors And all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Five Shillings and Four Pence *per annum* issuing out of the same messuages lands and tenements in East Greenwich and Charlton aforesaid

Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens aud Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay for the Anniversary of John Felde in the Church of S^{t} Bartholomew the Less London **And** all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Five Shillings and Four Pence *per annum* issuing out of the same messuages lands and commonalty[1] situate and being in the Parish of All Saints *Stayninges* in *Fenchurch Street* London Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay for the Anniversary of Stephen Lounde in the Church of S^{t} Martin *Outwich* London **And** all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Fifty-five Shillings *per annum* issuing out of four messuages and tenements of the same Master Wardens and Commonalty situate and being in the Parish of S^{t} Michael at Queenhithe London and out of another tenement of the same Master Wardens and Commonalty situate and being in *Fenchurch Street* in the Parish of All Saints *Stayninges* London Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay for the Anniversary of the Lady Margaret Countess of Kent in the Church of the late College called Whittington College London **And** all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Seven Shillings and Two Pence *per annum* issuing out of a messuage called *Clothworkers Hall* within the City of London Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay for the Anniversary of Doctor Taylour in the Church of S^{t} Antholine London **And** all that our rent annuity and annual sum of Ten Shillings *per annum* issuing out of the same messuage called *The Clothworkers' Hall* Which said annual sum rent or annuity the same Master Wardens and Commonalty lately paid and annually were accustomed to pay for the Anniversary of John Sheperd in the Church of Aldermary London

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All and singular which aforesaid several annual rents sums of money and annual sums above expressed and specified now together amount to the clear annual value of Nine Hundred and Thirty Nine Pounds Two Shillings and Five Pence and One Half-penny **To have** hold and enjoy all and singular the aforesaid several rents annuities sums of money and annual sums and all and singular the other premises above expressed and specified with all and singular and every their appurtenances to the aforesaid AUGUSTINE HYNDE RICHARD TURKE and WILLIAM BLACKWELL and their assigns for ever To the proper use and behoof of the same AUGUSTINE RICHARD and

[1] *Sic* a mistake for *tenements*.

William their heirs and assigns for ever without in any wise rendering paying or making any account rent service tenure or anything else therefore or for any part thereof to us our heirs and successors Any Law Statute Act Ordinance Use Custom Provision Proclamation or Restriction to the contrary thereof had made published ordained or provided or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding And we will and by these presents firmly enjoining command as well our Chancellor and General Surveyors and Council of our said Court of Augmentations and Revenues of our Crown as all Receivers Auditors and other Officers and Ministers of us our heirs and successors whomsoever for the time being that they and every of them upon the sole shewing of these our Letters Patent or the Enrolment of the same without in any wise obtaining or suing out any other Writ or Warrant from us our heirs or successors shall make and from time to time shall cause to be made to the aforesaid Augustine Hynde Richard Turke and William Blackwell their heirs and assigns full entire and due allowance and manifest discharge of and from all and singular the aforesaid several annual rents and sums of money above expressed and specified and of and from every parcel thereof And these our Letters Patent or the Enrolment of the same shall be annually and from time to time as well to our said Chancellor and General Surveyors and Council of our said Court of Augmentations and Revenues of our Crown as to all Receivers Auditors and other Officers and Ministers of us our heirs and successors whomsoever for the time being a sufficient Warrant and Discharge in this behalf And moreover of our more abundant grace we give and do by these presents grant to the aforesaid Augustine Hynde Richard Turke and William Blackwell All the issues revenues profits and arrearages of all and singular the aforesaid rents annuities and annual sums above expressed and specified and of every of them from the Feast of S^{t} Michael the Archangel last past hitherto arising or accruing To have to the same Augustine Hynde Richard Turke and William Blackwell without in any wise rendering paying or making any account or anything else therefore to us our heirs or successors We will also and we do by these presents grant to the aforesaid Augustine Hynde Richard Turke and William Blackwell [that they may] and shall have these our Letters Patent duly made and sealed under our Great Seal of England without fine or fee great or small in any wise to be rendered paid or made therefore to us in our Hanaper or elsewhere to our use Albeit express mention &c In witness whereof &c Witness the King at Leighes the fourth day of July.

By the King himself.

II.

Charter of Foundation

OF THE

FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL OF SUTTON VALENCE

IN THE

COUNTY OF KENT.

9th February, 18 *Elizabeth*, *A.D.* 1575—6.

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lizabeth by the grace of God of England France and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith &c To all to whom the present letters shall come Greeting Whereas our well-beloved and faithful subject William Lambe of the City of London *Clothworker* has humbly besought us that we would in the town of Sutton Valence in our County of Kent vouchsafe to be erected and established a Grammar School for the good education and instruction of boys and youths there and about the neighbouring parts inhabiting and dwelling And also that in some wise he may conveniently be able to provide for the relief and support of certain poor persons dwelling within the said town of Sutton Valence and other towns near adjoining Know ye that we willingly approving this pious petition of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion do will grant and ordain for us our heirs and successors that from henceforth there may and shall be one Grammar School in the said town of Sutton Valence which shall be called The Free Grammar School of William Lambe in Sutton Valence for the education institution and instruction of boys and youths in grammar to endure for evermore and by these presents we do ordain erect create and found that School of one Master or Pedagogue to continue perpetually And that the intention aforesaid may take the better effect and that the lands tenements rents revenues and other things to be granted assigned and appointed for the support of the School aforesaid may be the better governed for

the continuance of the same School we will and ordain that from henceforth the aforesaid William Lambe during his natural life shall be and shall be called the Governor of the possessions goods and chattels of the said School And after the death of the aforesaid William Lambe we will and ordain that the Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Slothworkers [*sic*] in the City of London for the time being shall be and shall be called the Governors of the possessions revenues and goods of the said School And therefore know ye that we have assigned elected nominated and constituted and we do by these presents assign elect nominate and constitute the aforesaid William Lambe to be and hereafter to be the first and modern Governor of the possessions revenues and goods of the said Free Grammar School to exercise and occupy well and faithfully the same office during his natural life And after the death of the aforesaid William Lambe the aforesaid Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London and their successors for the time being after the death of the same William Lambe to be hereafter the Governors of the said Free School well and faithfully to exercise and occupy the said office from the death of the aforesaid William Lambe for ever And that the same William Lambe during his natural life may and shall be the Governor in deed fact and name and during his life may and shall be the Governor of the possessions revenues and goods of the aforesaid Grammar School and we do by these presents fully create erect ordain make and appoint the same William Lambe the Governor of the possessions revenues goods and chattels of the said Free Grammar School during his life And we will that after the death of the aforesaid William Lambe the same Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London and their successors shall and may be the Governors of the said School in deed fact and name And that they thenceforth be and shall be incorporated and erected one Body corporate and politic of itself for ever by the name of the Governors of the possessions revenues goods and chattels of the Free Grammar School of William Lambe in Sutton Valence And we do by these presents incorporate the same Master and four Wardens and their successors the Governors of the possessions revenues goods and chattels of the said Free Grammar School after the death of the aforesaid William Lambe for ever and we do by these presents really and fully create ordain make and constitute them a Body corporate and politic by the same name to endure for ever And further we will and by these presents we do ordain and grant that the same William Lambe the Governor during

his life of the possessions revenues goods and chattels of the said Free Grammar School by the same name may and shall be a person able and capable in law during his life to have and receive for the term of his life as well of us our heirs and successors as of any other person or persons whomsoever lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever for the support of the School aforesaid and of the poor persons aforesaid to remain thereafter to the aforesaid Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London the aforesaid Governors of the School aforesaid and their successors for the perpetual support of the same School and poor persons aforesaid **And also** we will and do by these presents ordain and grant that after the death of the aforesaid William Lambe the aforesaid Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity aforesaid for the time being shall be the Governors of the possessions revenues goods and chattels of the said Free Grammar School and have perpetual succession And by the same name may and shall be persons able and capable in law to purchase obtain and receive lands tenements meadows pastures feedings rents reversions revenues and hereditaments whatsoever as well of us our heirs or successors as of the aforesaid William Lambe his heirs executors or assigns or of any other person or persons whomsoever in like manner for the perpetual support of the School aforesaid and of the poor persons aforesaid **And further** we will and for us our heirs and successors we do by these presents grant to the Governors and their successors that henceforth they have a Common Seal to serve for their business the premisses and other things in these our Letters Patent expressed and specified or only touching or concerning any parcel thereof and that the said Governors by the name of The Governors of the possessions revenues goods and chattels of the Free Grammar School of William Lambe in Sutton Valence aforesaid may be able to plead and be impleaded defend and be defended answer and be answered in whatsoever Courts and places and before whatsoever Judges in whatsoever causes actions businesses suits plaints pleas and demands of what nature or condition soever they shall be touching or concerning the premises or any parcel thereof or for any offences trespasses things causes or matter done or perpetrated by any persons [touching or concerning the premises] or any parcel thereof or to be done or perpetrated in or upon the premises or any parcel thereof or any thing specified in these presents **And moreover** of our more abundant grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion we give and grant and do by these presents give and grant to the aforesaid William Lambe the modern Governor during his natural life full power and authority to nominate and appoint the Pedagogue of the School aforesaid as often as the same School shall be void of a Pedagogue And that the

same William Lambe during his life from time to time shall make and shall and may be able to make fit and wholesome Statutes and Ordinances in writing concerning and touching the order governance and direction of the Pedagogue and Scholars of the School aforesaid for the time being and to appoint the stipend and salary of the same Pedagogue and others touching and concerning the same School and the order governance preservation and disposal of the rents and revenues for the support of the same School Which said Statutes and Ordinances so to be made we will grant and do by these presents command to be observed inviolably from time to time for ever **And moreover** we have given and granted and do by these presents give and grant to the aforesaid Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers in the City of London aforesaid and their successors that after the death of the aforesaid William Lambe the greater part of their Company Court and Assembly commonly called *their Court of Assistants* may have full power and authority to nominate and appoint the Pedagogue of the School aforesaid as often as the same School shall be void of a Pedagogue And that the same greater part shall and may be able from time to time to make if need shall be fit and wholesome Statutes and Ordinances in writing concerning and touching the order governance and direction of the Pedagogue and Scholars of the School aforesaid for the time being and to appoint other things touching and concerning the same School and the order governance preservation and disposal of the rents and revenues goods and chattels for the support of the same School Which said Statutes and Ordinances so to be made we will and grant and do by these presents command to be inviolably observed from time to time for ever **And further** of our more abundant grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion we have given and granted and we do by these presents give and grant for us our heirs and successors to the aforesaid Master and four Wardens of the Guild or Fraternity aforesaid the Governors of the School aforesaid and their successors special licence and free and lawful faculty power and authority of having receiving and purchasing to them and their successors for ever for the perpetual support and maintenance of the School aforesaid and of the poor persons aforesaid as well of us our heirs or successors as of the aforesaid William Lambe or of other person and persons whomsoever whatsoever manors messuages lands tenements rectories tithes and other hereditaments whatsoever within the Realm of England or elsewhere within our Dominions provided they do not altogether exceed the clear annual value of Fifty Pounds Any Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act Ordinance or Provision or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever to the contrary thereof had made

published ordained or provided in any wise notwithstanding And we will and do by these presents ordain that all the issues rents revenues and profits of all the lands and tenements possessions goods and chattels hereafter to be given and assigned for the support of the School aforesaid be from time to time converted to the support of the Pedagogue of the School aforesaid for the time being and to the relief of the poor persons there dwelling and of the other towns next adjoining in such manner and form as they were limited and ordained by the said William Lambe and to the reparation of the said lands and tenements and not otherwise nor to any other uses or intents Not willing that the aforesaid William Lambe his heirs or assigns or the aforesaid governors or their successors on account of or by reason of the premisses or any of them be in anywise molested or hindered nor any of them be molested or hindered but upon the sole shewing of these our Letters Patent or the Enrolment of the same as well they and every of them as all and singular the premisses be by these presents acquitted and discharged thereof And we will and do by these presents grant to the aforesaid Governors that they may and shall have these our Letters Patent duly made and sealed under our Great Seal of England without fine or fee great or small in any wise to be rendered paid or made to us in our Hanaper or elsewhere to our use therefore Albeit express mention of the true annual value or of the certainty of the premisses or of other gifts or grants heretofore made by us or by any of our progenitors to the aforesaid Governors be not made in these presents Or any Statute Act Ordinance Provision or Restriction to the contrary thereof made published ordained or provided Or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent Witness myself at Westminster the ninth day of February in the Eighteenth year of our reign.

PHYLLIPPS.

By Writ of Privy Seal and of the date aforesaid by the authority of Parliament.

The Great Seal attached.

III.

A Private Act

CONFIRMING

LANDS, TENEMENTS, AND RENTS,

TO THE SEVERAL

COMPANIES WITHIN THE CITY OF LONDON.

4 *James I., A.D.* 1606–7.

Anno Quarto Jacobi Primi, No. 23.[1]

An Act for securing and confirming of the Lands Tenements and Rentes heretofore graunted devised or conveyed to severall Companies w^th in the Cittie of London and to the Maior and Cominaltie and Citizens of y^e Cittie of London.

Whereas in tymes past diverse Messuages Lands Tenements rents annuities yearelie profitts and hereditaments were devised graunted limitted or otherwise conveyed and assured or were menc̃oned to be devised graunted limitted conveyed or assured in fee simple to or for the use of diverse and severall Companies incorporated guildes and fraternities within the Cittie of London who for diverse yeares past have enjoyed and reteyned the said Landes Tenements Rentes and Hereditaments and employed them to the comforte of many good subjects and great releefe of the poore and other good and charitable uses And whereas many of the same graunts limitac̃ons devises and conveyances have heretofore bin sought to be avoided and the said Landes Tenements Rentes and Hereditaments to be evicted and His Ma^tie to be entitled thereunto as concealed or unjustlie deteyned from Him Nevertheless His most excellent Ma^tie taking knowledg of the severall Composic̃ons made and great summes of money thereupon paid for the said Landes Tenements Rents and Hereditaments both in the tyme of King Edward the Sixt and in the tyme of Queene Elizabeth of famous memorie and of the good and charitable employment of the said Landes and Premisses hetherunto and at this tyme And especiallie His Ma^tie taking knowledg that it pleased His late deare Brother King Edward the Sixt

[1] This Act is No. 10 in the printed Statutes of the Realm, Vol. iv., Part ii., p. 1133.

by his Lres Patents under the Great Seale of England sealed bearing date at Leighes the fourteenth[1] daie of Julie in the fowerth yeare of His Mat^s^ raigne in consideracon of the summe of eighteen thousand seven hundred fortie and fower poundes eleven shillings and two pence to the Treasorer of His Mat^s^ Court of Augmentacons and Revenues of His Crowne by Augustine Hinde and Richard Turke Citizens and Aldermen of London and William Blackwell Gentleman Comon Clerke of the same Cittie paide by the advise of His Counsell to give and to graunt to the saide Augustine Hinde Richard Turke and William Blackwell their Heires and Assignes for ever diverse Rents Annuities Pencons and annuall profitts in the said Lres Patents menconed issuing or sometyme employed out of diverse and sondrie Messuages Landes Tenements and Hereditaments of diverse and sondrie the severall Companies of diverse Artes Misteries and Trades within the Cittie of London as namelie out of diverse Messuages Landes Tenements and Hereditaments respectivelie belonging to the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Mercers of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Goldsmithes London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Vinteners of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of Marchant Tailo^rs^ in the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Fyshmongers of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Art or Misterie of the Salters of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Guild or Fraternitie of the Blessed Marie of the Misterie of Drapers London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of the Grocers of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Societie of the Misterie of the Joyners of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Fownders of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of the Carpenters of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of the Diers of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of Tallow Chandlers of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Iron Mongers London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Lether sellers of the Cittie of London the Master Governors and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Cookes of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie and Societie of the Fletchers of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of Wax-chandlers of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Cowpers of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misteries of Skynners of the Cittie of London the Master and Wardens of the Misterie of Haberdashers London the Master or Governo^rs^ and Cominaltie of Barbo^rs^ and

[1] *Fourth* in the Letters Patent.

Surgeons of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie or Arte of Girdlers of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie or Arte of Grey Tawyers of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Cutlers of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie or Arte of Coriers of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Armorers of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Bakers of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Brewers of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Arte or Misterie of Clothworkers of the Cittie of London the Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Sadlers of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of Cordweyn^{ers} of the Cittie of London the Master Wardens and Cominaltie of the Misterie of the Pewterers of the Cittie of London the Maior and Cominaltie and Citizens of the Cittie of London since which tyme and since the making of which said Lres Patents diverse doubts and questions have bin mooved whether the severall Rents menc̃oned in those Lres Patents or the Messuages Landes and Hereditam^{ts} whereout those Rents are menc̃oned in the same Lres Patents to be issuing or employed were concealed or wrongfully deteyned from the Crowne and both for the one and the other diverse composic̃ons heretofore made Therefore His most excellent Ma^{tie} for the taking awaie of all questions doubts or ambiguities that hereafter might be moved or stirred either concerning the said Rents or Messuages Landes and Hereditaments in the same Lres Patents menc̃oned and respectivelie belonging to the same severall Companies or to the said Maio^{r} and Cominaltie or by them or their Assignes perceaved receaved or enjoyed of His Princelie bountie and great goodness to the Cittie of London and favour to the said severall Companies incorporated Guilds and Fraternities therein mynding that the said Landes Tenements Rents and Hereditaments menc̃oned in the said Lres Patents of 4 Edw. 6. shall be so assured and establyshed as that the same shall and may hereafter remaine and contynue to the said severall Companies Guilds and Fraternities Maior and Cominaltie and their Successo^{rs} and Assignes and to their uses trusts and confidence for ever Is most graciouslie pleased that it may be enacted and establyshed by His Ma^{tie} w^{h} the assent of the Lordes Spirituall and Temporall and the Co$\bar{m}$ons in this present Parlament assembled And be it enacted by the Authoritie of the same That all such Messuages Landes Tenements Rents yearelie profitts and Hereditaments as have bin heretofore graunted devised li$\bar{m}$itted conveyed or assured or are or were mentioned or intended in or by any Will Lres Patents Writings or Conveyaunces to be conveyed bequeathed limitted or assured to any of the said severall Companies

Guilds or Fraternities w^th^in the said Cittie of London or to the Maio^r^ and Cominaltie and Cittizens of the Cittie of London or to any of their uses trusts or confidence and w^ch^ Landes Tenements Rents and Hereditaments are menc̃oned or named in the said L̃res Patents of 4 Edw. 6. by whatsoever name or names they or any of them are or have bin in any such Will L̃res Patents or other Writings named or called shall and may for ever hereafter be lawfullie held reteyned and enjoyed by the said severall Companies Guilds or Fraternities and Maior and Cominaltie and their Successo^rs^ respectivelie to them and their Successo^rs^ and Assignes for ever by what name or names soever they or any of them now are then were or hereafter shalbe incorporated named called or known against the King's Ma^tie^ his heires and Successo^rs^ and against all persons clayming or hereafter to clayme by from or under his Ma^tie^ or the said King Edward the Sixt Queene Marie or the late Queene Elizabeth or any of them without any Rent Accompt or other profitts to His Ma^tie^ his heires or Successo^rs^ therefore to be yealded paied or done any defect or imperfection whatsoever in the said L̃res Patents or other matter or thing to be found objected or alleadged to the contrarie notwithstanding saving and reserving unto all and everie person and persons bodies politique and corporate their heires and Successo^rs^ other then the Kings Ma^tie^ his heires and Successo^rs^ and other then such person and persons as do or shall clayme by from or under the Kings Ma^tie^ his heires and Successo^rs^ or the said King Edward the Sixt Queene Marie or Queene Elizabeth and not clayming from by or under any of the said severall Companies or Maior and Cominaltie and Cittizens aforesaid all such Estate right title interest claime and demaund as they or any of them have or hath or may have of in to or out of all or any of the said Landes Tenements Rents yearelie profitts and hereditaments or any of them in as large and ample manner as if this present Act of Parliament had never bin had or made Provided and be it further enacted by the authoritie aforesaid that all persons clayming any lands tenements or hereditaments mentioned in the said Patent of 4^to^ Edwardi 6^ti^ by from or under the said severall Companies Guilds or Fraternyties or Maio^r^ and Cominaltie and Cytizens or any of them by any Grant Lease Conveyance or Assurance by wryting under their or any of their Co̅mon Seale shall for ever hereafter have hold and enjoy all and singuler the said Lands tenements and heredytaments so to them granted leased conveyed or assured as aforesaid against the Kings Ma^tie^ his heires and Successo^rs^ and against all clayming by from or under his Majesty or the said late King Edward the Sixt Queen Mary or Queen Elizabeth or any of them and against the said severall Companies Guilds Fraternyties Maio^r^ and Cominaltie and Cytizens and every of them according to such Estates and under such rents condic̃ons limittac̃ons and agreements as in their said severall Grants Leases Conveyances or Assurances are

lymitted and appointed and as amplie as now they injoy and hold y^e^ same Provided alwaies and be it enacted that this Act or any thing herein conteyned shall not extend to any Lands Tenements rents or heredytaments whatsoever whereof any person or persons bodies politique or corporate or any clayming from by or under them or any of them hath been in possession or seisin by taking the rents or profitts thereof yearlie by the space of the most part of twentie yeares last past or more other then the said Companies Guilds and Fraternyties and the said Mayo^r^ and Cominaltie and Citizens and their Successo^rs^ and every such person as claymeth or deryveth any interest from by or under them or any of them.

IV.

Letters Patent of Confirmation

GRANTED TO

THE CLOTHWORKERS OF LONDON

BY

KING JAMES I.

20th July, 17 *James I.*, *A.D.* 1619.

ames by the grace of God of England Scotland and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c To all to whom the present letters shall come Greeting Whereas the Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London now have and hold possess and occupy either by lawful title or without lawful title or their Farmers Tenants or their Assigns or others claiming by them or under their title now have occupy hold or possess the several messuages lands tenements rents and hereditaments following with their appurtenances or have thereof perceived and had the issues and profits (that is to say) All those four messuages formerly being three messuages with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Mark Lane* and *Hart Street* in the parish of S^{t} Olave near the Tower of London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of George Ivat Thomas Gamble Humphrey Rymell and Anthony Browne or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns Which formerly were the lands and tenements of Oliver Claymond Citizen and *Clothworker* of London And all those eleven messuages and cottages with their appurtenances lying together in *Billiter Lane* in the parishes of All Saints *Stayninges* and of S^{t} Katherine *Creechurch* London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Ethana Halliwell widow Helen Gall widow John Dickman Alice Smyth widow Richard Harris John Christian Edward Darcy Knight Brian Wilson Grace Kenrick widow and Richard Cowdall or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all that capital messuage with the orchard garden and other the appurtenances some time

called or known by the name of *Fullers' Hall* And three other messuages with the appurtenances adjoining the same capital messuage situate and being in *Fanchurch Street* in the parish of All Saints *Steyninges* London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Edward Darcy Knight Richard Cowdale gentleman and John Jennyns or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all those five messuages and gardens with the appurtenances situate and being in *Fenchurch Street* aforesaid in the said parish of All Saints *Stayninges* now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Robert Hungate James Sutton John Yeomans William Jennyns and Anne Robertson widow or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all that messuage called *The Blacke Tennys Courte* with the appurtenances and two messuages adjoining the same with the appurtenances in the aforesaid parish of All Saints *Steyninges* now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Robothom or his assign or assigns And all those four messuages with the appurtenances situate and being together in the parish of S^{t} Denis *Backchurch* at the north-west part called *North-West Corner* of *Philpot Lane* London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Hugh Richardson Thomas Deeringe and Edward Cotton or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any one of their assigns And all that capital messuage called or known by the name of *Clothworkers' Hall* with the appurtenances and two messuages thereto next adjoining with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Minchin Lane* in the parish of S^{t} Dunstan in the east part of London Which said messuages now are in the several tenures or occupations of John Domelawe and Thomas Holt or of either of them or of their assigns or of the assigns of either or any one of them And all those two messuages with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Cornhill* and *Broad Street* in the parish of S^{t} Christopher London now or late in the tenure or occupation of Edward Rider or of his assign or assigns And all that messuage with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Cornhill* in the parish of S^{t} Michael in *Cornhill* London now or late in the tenure or occupation of Richard Bill *Grocer* or his assign or assigns And all that capital messuage with the appurtenances now being several habitations or mansions situate lying and being in the lane called *S^{t} Nicholas Lane* in the parish of S^{t} Nicholas of Acon London And all those six messuages with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Abchurch Lane* in the parishes of S^{t} Nicholas of Acon aforesaid and S^{t} Mary *Abchurch* or in both of them now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Foxe or his assigns or assign And all those five messuages with their appurtenances situate lying and being in *Abchurch Lane* aforesaid in the said parish of S^{t} Mary *Abchurch* London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Isabella Hackford widow

Henry Onyon John Hanmer and Robert Williams or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns Which said premises situate and being in the aforesaid several parishes of S^{t} Christopher S^{t} Nicholas of Acon and S^{t} Mary *Abchurch* formerly were the lands and tenements of Oliver Claymond late Citizen and *Clothworker* of London And all that wharf called *Hay Wharfe* and one messuage thereupon built with all and every the appurtenances situate lying and being in the parish of *Allhallows* the Great in *Thames Street* London now or late in the tenure or occupation of Abraham Campion or his assigns or assign And all those eight messuages with their appurtenances situate lying and being in a certain lane called *Battes Lane* leading from *Thames Street* aforesaid to the said wharf called *Hay Wharfe* in the said parish of *Allhallows* the Great London now or late in the tenure or occupation of the aforesaid Abraham Campion or his assigns or assign And all those eight messuages and common stairs called *Common Stayres* with their appurtenances situate lying and being in another lane of old time similarly called *Haye Wharfe Lane* and now called or known by the name of *Allhallows Lane* near *The Stilliard* in the said parish of *Allhallows* the Great London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Abraham Clarke Thomas Nelson Robert Reynold William Hayne Laurence Tailler Richard Wallys Joan Constantine widow and Peter Wilkinson or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all those two messuages with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Thames Street* near *Friar Alley* in the said parish of *Allhallows* the Great London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Christopher Robothom and Joan Boate widow or either of them or their assigns or of the assigns of either or of any one of them And all that messuage with the appurtenances formerly being three messuages situate lying and being in the parish of S^{t} Mary *Woolchurch* London now or late in the tenure or occupation of Joan Ward widow and George Ward or either or any one of them or of their assigns or of the assigns of either or of any one of them And all those three messuages with their appurtenances situate lying and being in *Basing Lane* in the parishes of S^{t} Mary *Aldermary* and S^{t} Mildred in *Broad Street* London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Thomas Fuddes Allan Fuller and Dorothy Parsons widow or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all that messuage with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Bow Lane* in the said parish of S^{t} Mary *Aldermary* London now or late in the tenure or occupation of Josiana Hodgkins widow and John Hodgkins or either of them or of their assigns or of the assigns of either or any one of them And all that messuage with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Garlick Hithe* in the parish of S^{t} James at *Garlick Hithe* London

now or late in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Starkey or his assigns or assign And all that messuage with the appurtenances situate and being in *Friday Street* in the parish of S^t^ *Margaret Moses* London now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Harrison or his assigns or assign And all that garden or ground called *Garden Grounde* with the appurtenances situate lying and being within the precincts of the late dissolved House of *The Friars Carmelites* or *White Friars* in the suburbs of London with one alms-house called *An Alme-house* and divers sollars and lodgings called *Lodginges* for poor persons lately built and constructed upon the said garden or ground by the Lady Margaret late Countess of Kent deceased And all that capital messuage and garden with their appurtenances and all those twelve small messuages thereto adjoining and seven cottages with every their appurtenances situate lying and being upon the north side of the lane called *Fleete Lane* otherwise *Seacole Lane* in the parish of S^t^ Sepulchre without Newgate London now or late in the tenure or occupation of Sir John Wood Knight or his assigns or assign And all those seven messuages with their appurtenances situate and lying upon the south side of *Fleet Lane* aforesaid in the said parish of S^t^ Sepulchre London and one small wharf enclosed by a wall called *a brick walle* near a ditch called *Fleete Ditch* now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Richard Terrey Jervase Sunderland James Preist John Herne John May William Layton and Richard Wrench or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all that Chapel called *S^t^ James' Chappelle in the Walle* near Cripplegate London with an entrance and yard called *The Yarde* thereto appertaining And all those four messuages with their appurtenances within or near adjoining the said yard of the said Chapel now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Nicholas Bestney gentleman Thomas Gray gentleman and Thomas Speight or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all that messuage with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Mugwell Street* and all those five cottages within a certain lane called *an Alley* next adjoining the said entrance and yard of the Chapel aforesaid Which said messuages cottages and alley are situate and are in the parish of S^t^ Olave in *Silver Street* London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Anne Moult widow John Hebbes Philip Cheyney John Rose Patrick Murfey and William Butler or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all those three messuages with their appurtenances situate lying and being in Little *Wood Street* in the parish of S^t^ Alban in *Wood Street* London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Francis Wright and Alice Beamond widow or either of them or of their assigns or of the assigns of either of them And all that messuage with the appurtenances situate lying and being in *Cateaton Street* near the north end of a certain lane called

Ironmonger Lane in the parish of S^{t} Lawrence in the Old Jewry London now or late in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Ince or his assign or assigns And all those seven messuages and seven gardens with their appurtenances situate lying and being in the parish of S^{t} Katherine Coleman London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Anthony Gressart alien James Chapman Philip Hole Edward Burneham and Richard Osborne or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all those four messuages lately being four messuages and five cottages and gardens with sheds called *Sheddes* to all and every of them appertaining And all that alley called *Copthall Alley* with all and every their appurtenances situate lying and being in Lothbury in the parish of S^{t} Bartholomew near the Royal Exchange London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Thomas Bramley George Cramer otherwise Cromer John Conyers and George Fish or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all those four messuages with their appurtenances situate lying and being in a lane called *Bartholomewe Lane* and an alley called *Jelley Alley* otherwise *Dipple Alley* in the said parish of S^{t} Bartholomew near the Royal Exchange of London aforesaid now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Joseph Jackson [1] Parker William Crakplace Richard Ball and John Vaughan or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all those five messuages with their appurtenances situate lying and being in *Cow Lane* in the parish of S^{t} Sepulchre London And all those small messuages or cottages with their appurtenances situate in a certain yard called *a Court or Yarde* called *Pheasant Court* in *Cow Lane* aforesaid in the aforesaid parish of S^{t} Sepulchre London now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Walker or his assign or assigns And all those five messuages with their appurtenances situate lying and being in *West Smithfield* near *Smithfield Penns* in the said parish of S^{t} Sepulchre without Newgate London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of David Price Henry Pettit and Edward Drury or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all those three messuages three gardens and *The Bowlinge Alleye* with their appurtenances together situate lying and being in the parish of S^{t} Stephen in *Coleman Street* London now or late in the tenure or occupation of Elizabeth Butler widow or her assigns or assign And all those six messuages and six gardens with every their appurtenances situate lying and being in a certain alley called *Mill Alley* in the aforesaid parish of S^{t} Stephen in *Coleman Street* London now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Bartholomew Barnes John Eldred Roland Backhouse Robert Streete and Cuthbert Beeston or any or any one of them or of their

[1] *Sic* in MS.

assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all that messuage with a garden yards or areas called *Backsides* and the buildings with their appurtenances situate lying and being in *East Smithfield* in the County of Middlesex in the parish of S^{t} Botolph without Aldgate London now or late in the tenure or occupation of Arthur Parker or his assign or assigns And also all those six messuages with their appurtenances situate and being in *East Smithfield* aforesaid in the aforesaid parish of S^{t} Botolph now or late in the several tenures or occupations of Anthony Reynoldes John Weekes George Burneham Henry Whitson and John Clarke or any or any one of them or of their assigns or of any or any one of their assigns And all that messuage with its appurtenances and two crofts of land called *Stone Hill* situate lying and being in Abbes Warley in the County of Essex And one *The Tile Kilne* one work-shop and three crofts of land called *Gentle Hamstall Gentle Stonehill* and *Gentle Freedon* and one parcel of land called *a Hoppet of land* in Upminster in the aforesaid County of Essex and three other crofts in Upminster aforesaid called *Rye Croft* and *Short Croft* and also one other parcel of land called *Waklins* and all the woods and underwoods appertaining to the same in Wokenden in the aforesaid County of Essex now or late in the tenure or occupation of Walter Guy *Tilemaker* or his assign or assigns And all those lands tenements orchards gardens and parcels of marsh containing by estimation one acre and the half of one acre with the moiety of one orchard lying in a marsh called *Cowe Marsh* situate lying and being in the fields townships and parishes of East Greenwich and Charlton in the County of Kent formerly being the lands and tenements of John Feild *Shearman* And also all those four messuages with their appurtenances situate lying and being at *Queenhithe* in the parish of St. Michael near *Queenhithe* London now or late in the tenure or occupation of John Mawchell gentleman or his assign or assigns formerly being the lands and tenements of the Lady Margaret late Countess of Kent deceased And all and singular the houses buildings structures shops chambers cellars sollars entrances courts gardens yards orchards lands tenements and hereditaments whatsoever in any wise belonging appertaining incident to appendent or incumbent on the premises or any part or parcel thereof or being ever heretofore had accepted occupied enjoyed demised accustomed let or reputed with the same or any or any one of them or with any part or parcel thereof with all and every their appurtenances **And whereas** We on behalf of the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London have been humbly besought as much as in us is to confirm and ratify for ever all and singular the aforesaid premises with every their appurtenances to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the

Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors **And further** that for us our heirs and successors we should think fit to give and grant [the same] with this intention that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors and their assigns hereafter for ever may have and hold and may be able and have power to have and hold the same premises aforesaid freely quietly and peacefully without any molestation contradiction hindrance claim or title of us our heirs or successors **Know ye** that we graciously approving of the petition aforesaid and also for and in consideration of the sum of Three Hundred and Seventy Pounds of lawful money of England well and faithfully paid to our use at the Receipt of our Exchequer by the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London of which we acknowledge ourselves to be fully satisfied and the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors to be thereof acquitted and discharged for ever by these presents Of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion have confirmed remitted released and ratified and by these presents for us our heirs and successors we do confirm remit release and ratify to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors all and singular the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and hereditaments and all and singular the other premises with every their appurtenances **To have** hold and enjoy the same messuages lands tenements and hereditaments and all and singular the other premises above by these presents confirmed or released or mentioned to be confirmed or released to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London their successors and assigns for ever **To hold** of us our heirs and successors all and singular the premises aforesaid in the City of London in free burgage of the City of London and not *in capite* nor by knight's service And to hold all and singular the other premises aforesaid in the several Counties aforesaid by such the same such sort and the like tenures and services as the same premises heretofore were held by and not by others or diverse **Rendering** to us our heirs and successors of and for the premises aforesaid as many as great such and the like annual rents fee-farms and sums of money as heretofore within the space of thirty years now last past were paid to us or our predecessors **And further** for the consideration aforesaid of our more abundant special grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion we have given and granted and by these presents for us our heirs and successors we do give and grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and

Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors All and singular the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and hereditaments and all and singular the other premises with every their appurtenances And also our reversion and reversions remainder and remainders whatsoever of all and singular the messuages lands tenements and hereditaments aforesaid with every their appurtenances And all and singular the rents annuities pensions and annual profits issuing from or out of the same premises or any of them The rents and services payable or to be done to us our heirs and successors therefore as is aforesaid and by these presents reserved alone excepted **To have** and to hold all and singular the aforesaid messuages lands tenements rents and hereditaments and all the other premises with their appurtenances And also our reversion and reversions remainder and remainders whatsoever of all and singular the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and hereditaments and of all and singular the other premises above by these presents granted released confirmed or ratified or mentioned to be granted released or confirmed with every their appurtenances to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London their successors and assigns to the proper use and behoof of the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London their successors and assigns for ever **To hold** of us our heirs and successors in our City of London aforesaid in free burgage of the City of London and not *in capite* nor by knight's service And to hold all and singular the other premises aforesaid in the several Counties aforesaid by such the same such sort and the like tenures and services as the same premises heretofore were held and not by others or diverse **Rendering** therefore to us our heirs and successors of and for the aforesaid premises as many as great such of such sort and the like annual rents fee-farms and sums of money as heretofore within the space of thirty years now last past were paid to us or our predecessors **And further** of our more ample especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion we have given and granted and by these presents for us our heirs and successors we do give and grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors That they the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors henceforth for ever may have hold and enjoy and may have power and be able to have hold and enjoy within the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and hereditaments and other the premises by these presents before granted released or

confirmed or mentioned to be granted released or confirmed and within every parcel thereof As many as great such the same of such sort and the like rights jurisdictions franchises liberties customs privileges profits commodities advantages emoluments possessions and hereditaments As and as fully freely and entirely and in as ample manner and form as they or their predecessors or any other or any others ever heretofore having possessing or being seised of the same messuages lands tenements and other the premises above granted released and confirmed or mentioned to be granted released or confirmed by these presents or any parcel thereof ever had held used or enjoyed or ought to have hold use or enjoy in the premises above granted or mentioned to be granted by these presents or in any parcel thereof by reason or pretext of any charter gift grant or confirmation or by reason of any Letters Patent by us or by any of our progenitors or predecessors late Kings or Queens of England heretofore had made granted or confirmed or by reason or pretext of any Act or Acts of Parliament or by reason or pretext of any lawful prescription use or custom heretofore had or used or otherwise by any lawful method right or title And as fully freely and entirely and in as ample manner and form as we or any of our progenitors or predecessors late kings or queens of England aforesaid have had or enjoyed or ought to have and enjoy the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and all and singular the other premises above granted or mentioned to be granted by these presents and every or any parcel thereof **And we further give** and by these presents of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion for us our heirs and successors we do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors All and singular the aforesaid messuages lands tenements rents and all and singular the other premises above by these presents granted or mentioned to be granted with every their appurtenances as fully freely and entirely and in as ample manner and form as all and singular the premises or any parcel thereof by reason or pretext of any dissolution suppression or surrender of any one or any of the late Monasteries Priories Fraternities or Hospitals or by reason or pretext of any Act or Acts of Parliament or by reason of any Exchange or Purchase or of any gift or grant or by reason of escheat or by any other lawful manner right or title came or ought to have come to our hands or to the hands of any of our progenitors or predecessors late Kings or Queens of England or to the hands of any one of them or as they now are or ought to be in our hands **And further** of our more abundant grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery

of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors That we our heirs or successors henceforward for ever annually and from time to time will discharge acquit and indemnify as well the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid their successors and assigns as the aforesaid messuages lands tenements hereditaments and all and singular the other premises above granted or mentioned to be granted by these presents and every parcel thereof with every their appurtenances against us our heirs and successors of and from all and all manner of corrodies fees rents annuities pensions portions arrearages of rents tithes and payments by name of tenths and other payments and sums of money and charges whatsoever issuing or payable to us our heirs and successors out of the premises or out of any part or parcel thereof or charged or to be charged thereupon against us our heirs and successors except from the rents services tenures and other the premises excepted or reserved in these presents to us our heirs and successors **Willing** also and by these presents for us our heirs and successors strictly enjoining [and] commanding as well the Treasurer Chancellor and Barons of the Exchequer of us our heirs and successors as all the Auditors Receivers and other Officers and Ministers of us our heirs and successors whatsoever for the time being That they and every of them on the sole shewing of these our Letters Patent or the Enrolment of the same without in any wise obtaining or suing out any Writ or Warrant from us our heirs or successors shall make and from time to time shall cause to be made to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London their successors and assigns entire and due allowance and manifest discharge of and from all and all manner of such corrodies rents fees annuities pensions portions arrearages of rents tithes and payments by name of tenths and sums of money and charges whatsoever issuing or payable to us our heirs or successors or charged or to be charged thereupon against us our heirs or successors except from the aforesaid rents services tenures and other the premises excepted and reserved in these presents (as is aforesaid) **And** these our Letters Patent or the Enrolment of the same shall be annually and from time to time as well to the said Treasurer Chancellor and Barons of the Exchequer of us our heirs and successors for the time being as to all Auditors Receivers and other the Officers and Ministers of us our heirs and successors for the time being a sufficient warrant and exoneration in this behalf **And further** of our more abundant special grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion for the consideration aforesaid for us our heirs and successors we do give grant pardon remit release and exonerate the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the

Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors All and singular the rents issues fines revenues pensions portions sums of money annual profits and arrearages whatsoever of all and singular the premises above by these presents granted or mentioned to be granted or any part or parcel thereof or issuing out of the premises or any parcel thereof or payable to us our heirs or successors by reason or in respect thereof (except what is before excepted) in any manner soever before the date of these our Letters Patent hitherto to us arising accruing happening incurred or payable And also all and all manner entrances intrusions and ingresses whatsoever hitherto had or made of in and upon the premises aforesaid or any part or parcel thereof by the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid or their predecessors or their Tenants Farmers or their assigns or by any other person or persons at any time hitherto without lawful method right or title And also all and singular the purchases acquisitions and alienations in Mortmain of for or concerning the aforesaid premises or any part or parcel thereof by the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London or their predecessors or by any other person or persons whomsoever to their use or in trust for them without the licence of us or of any of our predecessors or progenitors in that behalf first had and obtained The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute of this our Realm of England made and published to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding **We will** also and by these presents for us our heirs and successors we do agree and grant to and with the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery aforesaid and their successors That we our heirs and successors from time to time hereafter upon the humble petition of any or any one of the Tenants Farmers or assigns of the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery aforesaid their predecessors or successors now or heretofore having occupying possessing the premises aforesaid or being seised of any part or parcel thereof or other occupiers of the premises or of any parcel thereof will give grant pardon release and discharge to the same Tenants Farmers or assigns of the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid and to every of them by Letters Patent under our Great Seal of England in due manner to be made all and singular the rents issues fines revenues pensions portions sums of money annual profits tithes payments by name of tenths and arrearages whatsoever of all and singular the premises before granted or mentioned to be granted or issuing out of the same premises or any part thereof (except what is before

excepted) And also all and all manner entrances intrusions and ingresses had or made of in and upon the premises aforesaid or any part or parcel thereof by the same Tenants Farmers Occupiers or assigns aforesaid at any time hitherto without lawful method right or title And that we our heirs or successors or any or any one of the Officers or Ministers of us our heirs or successors henceforward hereafter will not hinder or molest nor do or cause to be hindered or molested the aforesaid Tenants Farmers Occupiers or assigns of the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid or any one or any of the Tenants Farmers or Occupiers of the same premises aforesaid or of any part or parcel thereof of for or concerning the aforesaid rents issues fines revenues pensions portions sums of money annual profits tithes payments by name of tenths and arrearages of the premises or of any part or parcel thereof nor of for or concerning any entrances intrusions or ingresses of in or upon the premises or any part or parcel thereof without lawful manner right or title as is aforesaid had or made **And furthermore** of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion for us our heirs and successors we do grant and give special licence to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors That it may and shall be well lawful to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery ot Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors to purchase take receive and have to them and their successors from whatsoever person or persons All and singular the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and hereditaments above by these presents before granted or confirmed or mentioned to be granted or confirmed or any part or parcel thereof being seised of the same premises or of any part or parcel thereof upon trust or confidence or to the use and behoof of the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid whether they be held of us or of any other persons or person whomsoever albeit the same premises or any parcel thereof hitherto was or were held of us or of any of our progenitors or predecessors *in capite* or by knight's service or by other manner whatsoever **To have** to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors for ever And also we do by these presents give licence and power to all and singular such persons whomsoever That they or any of them may and shall be able to give and grant the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and hereditaments above by these presents before granted or confirmed or mentioned to be granted or confirmed or any part or

parcel thereof to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London whether they be held of us or of any other person or persons as is aforesaid whomsoever The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute Act or Ordinance Provision or Restriction made published ordained or provided to the contrary thereof Or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding And this without any Inquisition or Inquisitions thereof by pretext of any Writ or Mandate of us or of any Writs or Mandates of us our heirs or successors of *Ad quod dampnum* or of any other writ grant mandate or precept to be made sued out or taken in that behalf and to be returned in the Chancery of us our heirs or successors or elsewhere **Willing** that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid or their successors be not obstructed disquieted molested or in anywise hindered by reason or on account of the premises or any of them by us our heirs and successors Justices Sheriffs Escheators or other the Bailiffs or Ministers of us our heirs and successors whomsoever And whereas we or our predecessors heretofore by several Letters Patent made to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid or their predecessors have given and granted or it is mentioned to be given and granted in the said Letters Patent to the same licence and power to purchase have and receive to them and their successors divers messuages lands tenements and hereditaments to divers several annual values or sums expressed in the same Letters Patent as by the same Letters Patent appears The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain notwithstanding **Now we will** and we do by these presents declare it to be our good pleasure and intention That these our Letters Patent or any grant thing or matter contained in the same shall not be reputed or adjudged to be as part or parcel of any such annual value or sum to which as is aforesaid they were heretofore made able and capable to purchase **And further** we grant and for us our heirs and successors do give licence to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors that they and their successors over and above the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and hereditaments above in these presents expressed shall and may be able to purchase have and receive hereafter without licence to them and their successors other messuages lands tenements and hereditaments (not exceeding the annual values or sums in the aforesaid Letters Patent) The Statute of not putting lands in Mortmain notwithstanding nevertheless so that they are not held of us or our successors *in capite* nor by

knight's service **And also** we will and do by these presents for us our heirs and successors give and grant special licence and lawful power faculty and authority to whomsoever the subject and subjects of us our heirs and successors and to every of them That they and every of them shall and may be able to give grant sell bequeath assign or to convey and assure in any other manner whatsoever messuages lands tenements and hereditaments (not exceeding the same annual values or sums in the aforesaid Letters Patent as aforesaid) to the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain in anywise notwithstanding Nevertheless so that the same messuages lands tenements and hereditaments be not holden of us our heirs or successors *in capite* nor by knight's service **And furthermore** we will and of our more abundant special grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion for the considerations aforesaid for us our heirs and successors we do by these presents agree and grant to and with the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid their successors and assigns That at the next Parliament or Session of Parliament of us our heirs or successors within this our Realm of England to be holden We our heirs or successors will give and grant and shall will and vouchsafe to give and grant our Royal and free Assent and Consent to any Bill or Petition to be exhibited or preferred by the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid or their successors in the same Parliament or Session of Parliament and to be approved and allowed by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and The Commons of the same Parliament for the better assurance confirmation and secure conveyance and grant of all and singular the premises to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid their successors and assigns And that the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid their successors and assigns may have and hold all and singular the premises above by these presents granted or mentioned to be granted according to the true intention of these our Letters Patent **And further** we will and do by these presents for us our heirs and successors grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid their heirs and assigns That these our Letters Patent or the Enrolment of the same shall be in all things and by all things firm good valid sufficient and effectual in Law towards and against us our heirs and successors as well in all our Courts as elsewhere wheresoever within our Realm of

England without any confirmations licences or tolerations of us our heirs or successors to be procured or obtained by the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid their successors or assigns **Notwithstanding** the ill naming or the not rightly or surely naming the ill reciting or not reciting the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and all and singular the other premises above by these presents before granted or confirmed or mentioned to be granted and confirmed or any part or parcel thereof **And** notwithstanding in anywise the not finding or ill finding an office or offices inquisition or inquisitions of the premises above by these presents before granted or confirmed or mentioned to be granted or confirmed or of any part or parcel thereof by which our title in and to the premises ought to be found before the making of these our Letters Patent **And** notwithstanding the ill mentioning or not mentioning our true title of and to the premises aforesaid or to any parcel thereof **And** notwithstanding any defect in the not reciting or ill reciting any demise or demises grant or grants heretofore made of the premises or of any part or parcel thereof being of record or not of record or otherwise howsoever **And** notwithstanding the ill naming not naming or not rightly and surely naming any town hamlet parish ward place precinct or county in which the premises or any part or parcel thereof are or is **And** notwithstanding any defect or defects in not mentioning or not fully rightly or surely mentioning the name or names of all or any of the tenants farmers possessors or occupiers of the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and of all and singular the other premises or any part or parcel thereof or of the quantities or qualities of the same premises or of any parcel thereof or the annual reserved rent of and upon the premises or any parcel thereof **And** notwithstanding any defect or certainty or computation or declaration or omission of the true annual value of the premises expressed and contained in these Letters Patent or of any part or parcel thereof **And** notwithstanding any defect in the not mentioning or not truly mentioning our true right estate or title of and to the same premises or any part or parcel thereof **And** notwithstanding the Statute of the Lord Henry the Sixth late King of England our ancestor made and published in the tenth year of his reign And notwithstanding the Statute of the Lord Henry the Fourth late King of England our ancestor made and published in the first year of his reign **And** notwithstanding the aforesaid Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain And notwithstanding any other Statute or any other Statutes of this our Realm of England or any other defects whatsoever **And** notwithstanding the not mentioning or not truly mentioning the natures kinds sorts quantities or qualities of the premises or of any of them or any part or parcel thereof

We will also and we do by these presents grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London that they may and shall have these our Letters Patent duly made and sealed under our Great Seal of England without fine or fee great or small in any wise to be rendered paid or made to us in our Hanaper or elsewhere therefore to our use Albeit express mention of the true annual value or of the certainty of the premises or of any one of them and of other gifts or grants by us or by any of our progenitors or predecessors heretofore made to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London be not made in these presents Or any Statute Act Ordinance Provision Proclamation or Restriction to the contrary thereof heretofore had made published ordained or provided or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in any wise notwithstanding In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent Witness myself at Westminster the twentieth day of July in the seventeenth year of our reign of England France and Ireland and of Scotland the fifty-second.

YONGE AND PYE.

By the King himself.

Endorsed :

" A perpetuitie graunted to the Masters Gardians and Cõialtie of the Freemen of the Art or Misterie of Clotheworkers of London.

Yonge and Pye."

The Great Seal of England attached.

confirmed or mentioned to be granted released or confirmed and within every parcel thereof As many as great such the same of such sort and the like rights jurisdictions franchises liberties customs privileges profits commodities advantages emoluments possessions and hereditaments As and as fully freely and entirely and in as ample manner and form as they or their predecessors or any other or any others ever heretofore having possessing or being seised of the same messuages lands tenements and other the premises above granted released and confirmed or mentioned to be granted released or confirmed by these presents or any parcel thereof ever had held used or enjoyed or ought to have hold use or enjoy in the premises above granted or mentioned to be granted by these presents or in any parcel thereof by reason or pretext of any charter gift grant or confirmation or by reason of any Letters Patent by us or by any of our progenitors or predecessors late Kings or Queens of England heretofore had made granted or confirmed or by reason or pretext of any Act or Acts of Parliament or by reason or pretext of any lawful prescription use or custom heretofore had or used or otherwise by any lawful method right or title And as fully freely and entirely and in as ample manner and form as we or any of our progenitors or predecessors late kings or queens of England aforesaid have had or enjoyed or ought to have and enjoy the aforesaid messuages lands tenements and all and singular the other premises above granted or mentioned to be granted by these presents and every or any parcel thereof **And we further give** and by these presents of our especial grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion for us our heirs and successors we do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors All and singular the aforesaid messuages lands tenements rents and all and singular the other premises above by these presents granted or mentioned to be granted with every their appurtenances as fully freely and entirely and in as ample manner and form as all and singular the premises or any parcel thereof by reason or pretext of any dissolution suppression or surrender of any one or any of the late Monasteries Priories Fraternities or Hospitals or by reason or pretext of any Act or Acts of Parliament or by reason of any Exchange or Purchase or of any gift or grant or by reason of escheat or by any other lawful manner right or title came or ought to have come to our hands or to the hands of any of our progenitors or predecessors late Kings or Queens of England or to the hands of any one of them or as they now are or ought to be in our hands **And further** of our more abundant grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors do grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery

of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid and their successors That we our heirs or successors henceforward for ever annually and from time to time will discharge acquit and indemnify as well the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid their successors and assigns as the aforesaid messuages lands tenements hereditaments and all and singular the other premises above granted or mentioned to be granted by these presents and every parcel thereof with every their appurtenances against us our heirs and successors of and from all and all manner of corrodies fees rents annuities pensions portions arrearages of rents tithes and payments by name of tenths and other payments and sums of money and charges whatsoever issuing or payable to us our heirs and successors out of the premises or out of any part or parcel thereof or charged or to be charged thereupon against us our heirs and successors except from the rents services tenures and other the premises excepted or reserved in these presents to us our heirs and successors **Willing** also and by these presents for us our heirs and successors strictly enjoining [and] commanding as well the Treasurer Chancellor and Barons of the Exchequer of us our heirs and successors as all the Auditors Receivers and other Officers and Ministers of us our heirs and successors whatsoever for the time being That they and every of them on the sole shewing of these our Letters Patent or the Enrolment of the same without in any wise obtaining or suing out any Writ or Warrant from us our heirs or successors shall make and from time to time shall cause to be made to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London their successors and assigns entire and due allowance and manifest discharge of and from all and all manner of such corrodies rents fees annuities pensions portions arrearages of rents tithes and payments by name of tenths and sums of money and charges whatsoever issuing or payable to us our heirs or successors or charged or to be charged thereupon against us our heirs or successors except from the aforesaid rents services tenures and other the premises excepted and reserved in these presents (as is aforesaid) **And** these our Letters Patent or the Enrolment of the same shall be annually and from time to time as well to the said Treasurer Chancellor and Barons of the Exchequer of us our heirs and successors for the time being as to all Auditors Receivers and other the Officers and Ministers of us our heirs and successors for the time being a sufficient warrant and exoneration in this behalf **And further** of our more abundant special grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion for the consideration aforesaid for us our heirs and successors we do give grant pardon remit release and exonerate the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the

Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London and their successors All and singular the rents issues fines revenues pensions portions sums of money annual profits and arrearages whatsoever of all and singular the premises above by these presents granted or mentioned to be granted or any part or parcel thereof or issuing out of the premises or any parcel thereof or payable to us our heirs or successors by reason or in respect thereof (except what is before excepted) in any manner soever before the date of these our Letters Patent hitherto to us arising accruing happening incurred or payable And also all and all manner entrances intrusions and ingresses whatsoever hitherto had or made of in and upon the premises aforesaid or any part or parcel thereof by the same Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London aforesaid or their predecessors or their Tenants Farmers or their assigns or by any other person or persons at any time hitherto without lawful method right or title And also all and singular the purchases acquisitions and alienations in Mortmain of for or concerning the aforesaid premises or any part or parcel thereof by the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London or their predecessors or by any other person or persons whomsoever to their use or in trust for them without the licence of us or of any of our predecessors or progenitors in that behalf first had and obtained The Statute of not putting lands and tenements in Mortmain or any other Statute of this our Realm of England made and published to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding We will also and by these presents for us our heirs and successors we do agree and grant to and with the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery aforesaid and their successors That we our heirs and successors from time to time hereafter upon the humble petition of any or any one of the Tenants Farmers or assigns of the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery aforesaid their predecessors or successors now or heretofore having occupying possessing the premises aforesaid or being seised of any part or parcel thereof or other occupiers of the premises or of any parcel thereof will give grant pardon release and discharge to the same Tenants Farmers or assigns of the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers aforesaid and to every of them by Letters Patent under our Great Seal of England in due manner to be made all and singular the rents issues fines revenues pensions portions sums of money annual profits tithes payments by name of tenths and arrearages whatsoever of all and singular the premises before granted or mentioned to be granted or issuing out of the same premises or any part thereof (except what is before

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We will also and we do by these presents grant to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London that they may and shall have these our Letters Patent duly made and sealed under our Great Seal of England without fine or fee great or small in any wise to be rendered paid or made to us in our Hanaper or elsewhere therefore to our use **Albeit** express mention of the true annual value or of the certainty of the premises or of any one of them and of other gifts or grants by us or by any of our progenitors or predecessors heretofore made to the aforesaid Master Wardens and Commonalty of the Freemen of the Art or Mystery of Clothworkers of the City of London be not made in these presents Or any Statute Act Ordinance Provision Proclamation or Restriction to the contrary thereof heretofore had made published ordained or provided or any other thing cause or matter whatsoever in any wise notwithstanding **In witness wherof** we have caused these our letters to be made patent **Witness** myself at Westminster the twentieth day of July in the seventeenth year of our reign of England France and Ireland and of Scotland the fifty-second.

YONGE AND PYE.

By the King himself.

Endorsed :

" A perpetuitie graunted to the Masters Gardians and Cõialtie of the Freemen of the Art or Misterie of Clotheworkers of London.

YONGE AND PYE."

The Great Seal of England attached.

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